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# MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

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*Cover: Pied-billed Grebe, March 1989. Photo by Luther C. Goldman.*



## **LATE NESTING DATES IN MARYLAND: PINE WARBLER, NORTHERN PARULA AND BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER**

**JAY M. SHEPPARD**

The 2002–2006 Maryland Breeding Bird Atlas will undoubtedly generate a number of early and late breeding records around the State. Egg dates for many avian species are difficult to determine, since their nests are often inaccessible to most observers. However, nestling or recently fledged young may offer indirect evidence of their hatching date and therefore, the last egg date for that brood. Careful observation of the young of many species can give an estimate of their age, and observers working on the Atlas project are encouraged to take careful note of such young birds. Based upon Iliff, et al. (1996), I report new State late nesting dates for Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*), Northern Parula (*Parula americana*), and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliottila caerulea*) found in 2002.

On July 3, 2002, shortly before noon (EDT), I found an adult male Pine Warbler attempting to move a fledgling through some small trees in an industrial park located to the east of US Route 1 and south of Whiskey Bottom Road, North Laurel, Howard County. The fledgling had no really discernible tail and could barely fly, although the nearest potential nesting habitat (*Pinus* spp. >15 m) was at least 250 m away. Based upon the tail length (<3 mm) and flying ability, I would estimate that the fledgling had left the nest earlier that morning or late the previous evening. The duration of the nestling phase for this species is given as 10 days (Rodewald, et al., 1999:15). Assuming an age of 10 days for this fledgling would yield a late egg date of June 25. Iliff, et al. (1996:40) indicate a late egg date for Maryland of May 20 for this species. I would attribute the previous late egg date being so early to the fact that most other warblers in Maryland only begin nesting in late May and much attention would be diverted from the Pine Warblers in their habitats to those that normally nest after mid-May in other habitats.

It would also seem logical to assume that this was also at least the second nesting attempt for this pair of warblers, as most Pine Warblers in this part of Maryland are on territory by the middle of April (pers. obs.). Rodewald, et al. (1999:15) suggest the high likelihood of second and even third nesting attempts for this early nesting species, particularly in more southerly portions of its range, but no confirmation of this has been made from banded adults.

Also on July 3, 2002, shortly after noon (EDT), I found a similarly aged fledgling Northern Parula being fed by its female parent. This fledgling also had no readily visible tail. It was found about 1 km due south of the Rt. 198 crossing of the Patuxent River, Laurel, Prince George's County, sitting in a cluster of *Acer negundo* leaves about 2–3 m off the ground in typical flood plain forest. Moldenhauer and Regelski (1996:14) report fledging for this spe-

cies at about 10 or 11 days of age. Based upon the above, I would estimate a late egg date of June 25. Iliff, et al. (1996:38) indicate the previous known late egg date for the Northern Parula to be June 14. The Northern Parula is one of the earliest Neotropical migrant warblers to return to Maryland (Iliff, et al., op. cit.). I strongly suspect that this was at least a second nest attempt for this pair. Moldenhauer and Regelski (1996:11) report second nesting attempts from South Carolina and Maine, and suspected in Florida, but they make no mention of possible third attempts.

On July 15, 2002, I found a recently fledged brood of three Blue-gray Gnatcatchers being attended by at least the adult male. The family was in some mixed scrub pines (*Pinus virginianus*) and hardwoods in Crofton, Anne Arundel County. Ellison (1992:12) reports that gnatcatchers in Vermont fledge at 10–15 d of age, mean of 13 d. The fledglings had half-grown tails such that I would estimate an approximate age of 16–18 d of age and a late egg date of June 28. Iliff, et al., (1996:34) report the latest egg date for this species to be June 8 in Maryland.

On July 3, at the same Laurel location where the above Northern Parula fledgling was found, another brood of gnatcatchers was found. These young birds had fully mature tails as viewed with 10X binoculars at about 12–15 m distance. Any close estimate of age of this brood is subject to considerable error, but I would guess this Laurel brood was no more than 23–25 d of age and possibly less than 20 d of age due to their apparent total dependence upon the adult. This Laurel brood likely hatched after the previous late date of June 8, too. Both of these gnatcatcher broods clearly show the high probability of multiple nest attempts for this species in central Maryland. Ellison (1992:10) indicates second broods are to be expected but makes no mention of third attempts. Re-nestings are reported to occur within a week or less of the previous brood's departure or loss of the nest, so this could possibly be a third attempt.

I hope that other early and late egg dates for these and all other Maryland nesting birds will come from this Atlas project and be reported accordingly.

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## LATE NESTING OF AMERICAN ROBIN IN MARYLAND

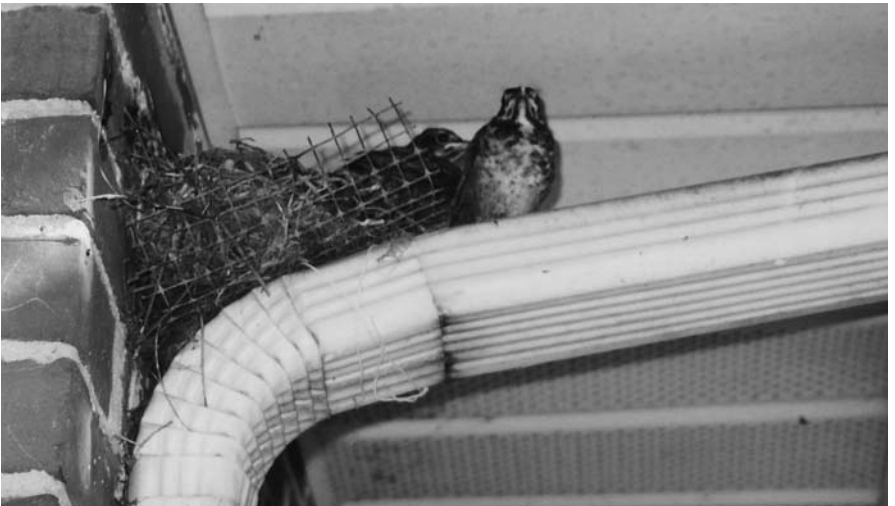
ROBERT L. GARNER

On August 1 and 2, 2002, my wife Barbara and I observed an American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) building a nest in an artificial wire basket secured onto a nearly horizontal section of downspout at the corner of our house in Catonsville, Maryland. Earlier the previous spring I had made the basket because in previous years robins and Mourning Doves (*Zenaidura macroura*) had tried to build nests there, but the nests had slid off. In April and May, a Mourning Dove and later a robin built nests and laid eggs, but predators destroyed both nests. I think the first predator was a cat and the second a crow.

Because of the lateness of the season, we paid little attention to the robin's nest, but numerous times every day we walked by it as we entered or left the house. If the bird was there, he would complain loudly as he flew away. Eventually, he became more used to us in our frequent trips. I say "he" because of the plumage. Although we never saw two birds at once, obviously a pair was involved. For whatever reason, we never saw a bird that looked like a female.

It was not until the middle of August, when my wife announced that she heard young in the nest, that we started paying any attention. The next day on a stepladder I looked into the nest and observed two partially feathered young. These two young successfully fledged on September 5, a new late date for fledging. The latest date previously recorded for nestling robins in Maryland was August 24, 1951, in Caroline County by Jerry and Roberta Fletcher (Stewart and Robbins 1958).

608 Northurst Way, Catonsville, MD 21228



Two robins fledge on September 5, 2002.



## REPORTS BY ROBERT F. RINGLER

### OBSERVERS, ABBREVIATIONS & LOCATIONS IN THIS ISSUE

**Observers:** Terry Allen, Harry Armistead, Stan Arnold, Fred Atwood, Zach Baer, Marcia Balestri, Tom Beal, Tyler Bell, Wayne Bell, Debby Bennett (reporting for Caroline Co.), Anne Bishop, Rick Blom, Amy Bourque, Mike Bowen, Ed Boyd, Gwen Brewer, Jim Brighton, Dave Brinker, Carol Broderick, Don Broderick, Danny Bystrak, Paul Bystrak, Mike Callahan, Tim Carney, Rick Cheicante, J. B. Churchill, Barry Cooper, Jane Coskren, Keith Costley, Scott Crabtree, Patty Craig (reporting for St. Mary's Co.), Marty Cribb, Ralph Cullison, Dave Czaplak, Lynn Davidson, Joan DeCarli, Marian Dodson, Sam Dyke, Les Eastman, Ward Ebert, Bill Ellis, Walter Ellison, Fred Fallon, Jim Felley, Jean Fry (reporting for Harford Co.), Larry Fry, Barbara Gearhart, Carol Gheblian, Kevin Graff, Paul Guris, Mary Gustafson, Matt Hafner, Sue Hamilton, Clive Harris, Tom Harten, Robert Hilton, Mark Hoffman, Hans Holbrook, Robert Holbrook, Emmalyn Holdridge, John Hubbell, Steve Huy, Marshall Iliff, Kye Jenkins, George Jett, Ray Kiddy, Elliot Kirschbaum, Nancy Kirschbaum, Philip Kline, Jane Kostenko, Dave Larkin, Ellen Lawler, Peter Lev, Glenn Lovelace, Gail Mackiernan, John Maloney, Peter Mann, Tom Marko, Joel Martin, Nancy Martin, Sean McCandless, Dave Mozurkewich, Sue Neri, Steve Noyes, Bonnie Ott, Sherry Peruzzi, Jim Peters, Paul Pisano, Betty Pitney (reporting for Tri-County Bird Club), Danny Poet, Fran Pope, Dave Powell, Kyle Rambo, Jan Reese, Sue Ricciardi, Bob Ringler, Arlene Ripley, Chandler Robbins, Les Roslund, Denise Ryan, Steve Sanford, Fran Saunders, Norm Saunders, Gene Scarpulla, Kurt Schwarz, Fred Shaffer, Lisa Shannon, Jay Sheppard, Don Simonson, Susan Sires, Jo Solem (reporting for Howard Co.), Chris Starling, Jim Stasz, Roger Stone, Eva Sunell, Rick Sussman, Debbie Terry, Mary Ann Todd, June Tveekrem, Jason Waanders, Mark Wallace, Marcia Watson-Whitmyre, Dave Webb, Pete Webb, Dave Weesner, Hal Wierenga, Jordan Wilkerson, Jim Wilkinson, Levin Willey, Paul Woodward, Michele Wright, Helen Zeichner.

**Abbreviations:** AA – Anne Arundel Co., AL – Allegany Co.; APL – Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab, HO; BA – Baltimore Co.; BC – Baltimore City; CE – Cecil Co.; CH – Charles Co.; CL – Carroll Co.; CN – Caroline Co.; CT – Calvert Co.; DC – District of Columbia; DO – Dorchester Co.; EEC – Environmental Education Center; FR – Frederick Co.; GA – Garrett Co.; HA – Harford Co.; HO – Howard Co.; JEDS – Jean Ellen DuPont Shehan Audubon Sanctuary, TA; KE – Kent Co.; MO – Montgomery Co.; MPEA – Middle Patuxent Environmental Area, HO; NA – Natural Area; NEA – Natural Environment Area; NRMA – Natural Resources Management Area; NWR – National Wildlife Refuge; PG – Prince George's Co.; PRNAS – Patuxent River Naval Air Station, SM; PRR – Patuxent Research Refuge, PG; PVSP – Patapsco Valley State Park; QA – Queen Anne's Co.; RP – Regional Park; SM – St. Mary's Co.; SO – Somerset Co.; SP – State Park; TA – Talbot Co.; UMCF – University of Maryland Central Farm, HO; WA – Washington Co.; WI – Wicomico Co.; WO – Worcester Co.; WMA – Wildlife Management Area; WWTP – Wastewater Treatment Plant.

**Locations (followed by abbreviation of county):** Adkins Arboretum, CN; Allens Fresh, CH; Alpha Ridge, HO; American Chestnut Land Trust, CT; Anacostia Park, DC; Ashton, MO; Assateague Island, WO; Barren Island, DO; Beauvue, SM; Beltsville, PG; Berlin, WO; Bethesda, MO; Beulah, DO; Big Pool, WA; Bivalve, WI; Black Hill RP, MO; Blackwalnut Point, TA; Blackwater NWR, DO; Bladensburg, PG; Bloodsworth Island, DO; Bodkin Island, QA; Bowie, PG; Bozman, TA; Breeze Point Farm WWTP, CH; Bridge Creek, WI; Brighton Dam, HO/MO; Broadford Lake, GA; Brookview, DO; Browns Station Landfill, PG; California, SM; Cambridge, DO; Catoctin Mountain, FR; Centennial Park, HO; Central Sod Farms, QA; Centreville, QA; Chesapeake Farms, KE; Chesapeake Landing, KE; Chestertown, KE; Chino Farms, QA; Choptank, CN; Cobb Island, CH; Conowingo Dam & Lake, HA/CE; Cornfield Harbor, SM; Cromwell Valley Park, BA; Cumberland, AL; Dameron, SM; Dans Mountain, AL; Darnestown, MO; Deal Island WMA, SO; Deep Creek Lake, GA; Dunkirk, CT; Eagles Nest Campground, WO; Eastern Neck Island NWR, KE; Easton, TA; Eden Mill Park, HA; Ellicott City, HO; Elliott Island, DO; Elms Beach Park, SM; Fairmount WMA, SO; Federalsburg, CN; Finzel Swamp, GA; Flag Ponds Park, CT; Fort McHenry, BC; Fran Uhler NA, PG; Frostburg, AL; Funkstown, WA; Gateway Commerce Center, HO; Great Oak Pond, KE; Greenbrier SP, WA; Greensboro, CN; Hains Point, DC; Hallmark, HO; Harford Glen EEC, HA; Hart-Miller Dredged Material Containment Facility, BA; Havre de Grace, HA; Herrington Manor SP, GA; Holland Island, DO; Hooper Island, DO; Horsehead Wetlands Center, QA; Hughes Hollow, MO; Hurlock, DO; Indian Creek WMA, CH; Indian Head, CH; Ingleside, QA; Jefferson Patterson Park, CT; Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, AA; Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, DC; Kenilworth Park, DC; Kent Island, QA; Keysville, CL; Kingman Lake, DC; Lake Artemesia, PG; Lake Elkhorn, HO; Lake Kittamaquidi, HO; Lake Roland, BA; Lakeside Business Park, HA; Lambs Knoll, WA; Lapidum, HA; Layhill Park, MO; Leonardtown, SM; Liberty Lake & Watershed, CL/BA; Lilypons, FR; Little Bennett RP, MO; Little Falls, MO; Little Meadows Lake, GA; Little Seneca Lake, MO; Loch Raven Reservoir & Watershed, BA; Lowes Wharf, TA; Mason Dixon Farm, FR; Mattawoman NEA, CH; McHenry, GA; McKeldin Area PVSP, CL; Meadowbrook Park, HO; Mears Farm, BA; Milford Mill Park, BA; Millington, KE; Milltown Landing, PG; Morgan Run NEA, CL; Morgantown, CH; Mount Pleasant, HO; Mt. Nebo WMA, GA; Myrtle Grove WMA, CH; Nanjemoy Creek, CH; Nanticoke, WI; New Windsor, CL; North Beach, CT; North Branch, AL; North Tract PRR, AA; Oak Grove, CN; Ocean City, WO; Ocean Pines, WO; Parsonsburg, WI; Perry Point, CE; Perryman, HA; Perryville, CE; Pickell Hill, GA; Pickering Creek Audubon Center, TA; Piney Reservoir, GA; Piney Run Park, CL; Pinto & Pinto Marsh, AL; Piscataway Creek, PG; Pleasant Valley, GA; Point Lookout SP, SM; Pone Island, DO; Poplar Island, TA; Pylesville, HA; Queenstown, QA; Ridge, SM; Ridgely, CN; Rigby's Folly, TA; Rileys Lock, MO; Roaring Point, WI; Rock Creek Park, DC; Rock Hall, KE; Rockburn Branch Park, HO; Rocky Gap SP, AL; Rocky Gorge Reservoir, HO/PG/MO; Roosevelt Island, DC; Rum Pointe Golf Course, WO; Salisbury, WI; Sandy Point SP, AA; Sassafras River NRMA, KE; Schooley Mill Park, HO; Scotland, SM; Selby Bay, PG; Seneca, MO; Seneca Creek SP, MO; Silver Spring, MO; Smith Island, SO; Soldiers Delight, BA; South Marsh Island, SO; South Point, WO; Spring Island, DO; St. Mary's City, SM; St. Michaels, TA; Sugarloaf Mountain, FR; Susquehanna SP, HA; Swallow Falls SP, GA; Swan Harbor Farm, HA; Sycamore Landing, MO; Tanyard, CN; Taylors Island, DO; Terrapin Nature Area, QA; Tidal Basin, DC; Tilghman Island, TA; Town Hill, AL; Triadelphia Reservoir, HO/MO; Trout Run WWTP, GA; Truitts Landing, WO; Turkey Point, CE; Upper Marlboro, PG; Violettes Lock, MO; Wades Point, TA; Waldorf, CH; Washington Monument SP, WA; West Ocean City, WO; Western RP, HO; Westminster, CL; Wilde Lake, HO; Wootons Landing, AA; Worton, KE; Wye Island, QA; Youghiogheny River Reservoir, GA.

## BREEDING SEASON: JUNE 1, 2002–JULY 31, 2002

One of the severest droughts ever seen struck the region this summer. There was almost no rainfall, and temperatures soared throughout the season.

*Loons, Grebes, Shearwaters.* Rarely seen in Maryland, a **Pacific Loon** was discovered by Powell on Clopper Lake at Seneca Creek SP on May 29 and it remained into the fall to be enjoyed by many local birders. It was joined by two **Common Loons** through June 8 with one remaining into the fall (Powell +). Sightings of **Pied-billed Grebes** suggestive of breeding, though no other evidence was found, were one near Centennial on June 7 (Wallace), one at Lake Elkhorn on June 20 (Elaine Pardoe), and one at Havre de Grace on July 10 (Hafner, Carney). Three **Greater Shearwaters** were seen from a boat off Ocean City on June 4 (Kevin Fehskens).

*Pelicans, Cormorants.* An **American White Pelican** was photographed at Poplar Island on June 20 (B. Fruh) and an adult was seen off Cedar Point, PRNAS on June 26 (Rambo). **Brown Pelicans** continued nesting in large numbers in Dorchester Co. On May 28 there were 230 nests and many young birds at Spring Island and 17 nests with eggs at Whitewood Cove, Barren Island (Brinker). Other sightings of Brown Pelicans were one flying down the Patuxent River at Benedict, CH on June 10 (Harten), three on the Potomac River off Cedar Point Neck, CH on June 11 (Callahan), 10 off Popes Creek, CH on June 12 (Brewer, Jett), two at Cobb Island on June 18 (Stasz), three off Flag Ponds on July 16 (Ripley), one at Morgantown on July 16 (Stasz, Hafner), and 130 at PRNAS on July 24 (Rambo). Nesting **Double-crested Cormorants** were seen at Bodkin Island on May 24 (Ellison +), 800 birds were at Poplar Island on May 31 (Reese), 150 nests were at Spring Island on June 1 (Armistead), and a new site with 34 nests was found on the Patuxent River off Chalk Point, PG & CT on July 16 (Stasz, Hafner). The latter nests were on the bases of the large electrical towers in mid river. Other cormorant sightings representing non-breeding birds were at least eight on the Bush River, HA on June 19 (Tom Congersky), one at Wilde Lake on July 3 (Zeichner), one at Lake Elkhorn on July 8 (Coskren), and one at Lakeside on July 27 (Larkin). Surprising here in summer, an immature **Great Cormorant** was at Hart-Miller on June 8 (Scarpulla).

*Herons, Ibises.* An **American Bittern** seen at The Glades, GA on June 9 (Ellison +) was suggestive of breeding there. A **Least Bittern** was seen at Hart-Miller on June 8 (Scarpulla) and a fledgling was at Hughes Hollow on June 29 (Sussman). Reese estimated 250 **Great Blue Herons** at Poplar Island on May 31 and there were 70 nests at Bloodsworth Island on June 1 (Armistead). There appeared to be two nesting pairs of **Great Egrets** at Bodkin Island on May 24 (Ellison +) and 30 birds were at Poplar Island on May 31 (Reese). A Great Egret at UMCF on June 1 (Ott, Holdridge) and one at Harford Glen on June 9 (Betsy Reeder, Ty Lubin) were late spring wanderers; birds dispersing from breeding grounds were three at Harford Glen on July 10 (Hafner, Carney), 10 at Kenilworth Park on July 28 (Pisano), and seven at St. Michaels on July 31 (Reese). Two nesting pairs of **Snowy Egrets** were at Bodkin Island on May 24 (Ellison +) and post-breeding dispersal brought 19 to North Beach on July 24 (Stasz). Sightings of **Little Blue Herons** away from nesting areas were an adult at Lake Elkhorn on June 1 (Neri +), 23 at Courthouse Point WMA, CE on July 24 (Leslie Fisher), and four at St. Michaels on July 31 (Reese). A **Tricolored Heron** at Rigby's Folly on July 13 (Armistead) was unusual there. A nesting pair of **Cattle Egrets** was at Bodkin Island on May 24 (Ellison +); sightings of non-breeding birds included six at St. Michaels on June 6 and 26 (Reese), seven at Bozman on July 14 (Reese), and 16 near St. Mary's City on July 14 (Craig). Reports of **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons** included one at Fran Uhler NA on June



28 (Shaffer) and one at Lilypons on July 14 (Waanders, Kline). Single immature **White Ibis** were at Rileys Lock on June 26 (David Young), Little Seneca Lake on July 6–28 (Tom Dunne +), Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Aug. 6 (Mackiernan, Cooper), and Jug Bay on Aug. 7 (D. Bystrak). At Hart-Miller two **Glossy Ibis** were present on June 8 (Scarpulla) and one was there on July 6 (D. Bystrak).

*Geese, Swans, Ducks.* Summering **Snow Geese** included two at Ocean Pines through Aug. 12 (Ellison, N. Martin) and two at Hurlock through September (Hafner +). On June 1 Harry Armistead saw a pair of **Canada Geese** with three downy young at Bloodsworth Island. Also on June 1 he estimated 425 **Mute Swans** at Pone Island. A free-flying Mute Swan was at Lake Elkhorn from June 2 through July 2 (Neri +). A **Tundra Swan** first seen in late May remained near Roosevelt Island through the summer (Pisano +). A female **Mallard** with three downy young was at Big Pool on Aug. 9 (Stasz). A **Green-winged Teal** at Hart-Miller on July 6 (D. Bystrak) was unusual. The **Canvasback** previously reported on Rocky Gorge Reservoir remained at least through Sept. 21 (Sheppard). An immature male **Ring-necked Duck** was at Point Lookout from June 29 through Aug. 8 (Craig +) and a female that summered at Piney Run was still present on Sept. 21 (Ringler +). Two **Lesser Scaup** were seen at Hart-Miller on July 6–20 with one through Aug. 10 (D. Bystrak +). Summering **Surf Scoters** included one on Leadenham Creek, TA on July 3 (Bourque) and two at Point Lookout on July 8 (Craig). A male **Hooded Merganser** was on the Patapsco River near Henryton, HO/CL on July 7 (Joe Byrnes) and another male was at Piney Run on July 21 (Stasz, Hafner). During a canoe trip on the Potomac River in Allegany Co. Jim McCann and Dan Feller saw male and female **Common Mergansers** near Oldtown on June 22 and a female with five downy young near Paw Paw, West Virginia the next day. Though we do not know on which side of the river the birds nested this could be a first breeding record for the state. Summering **Ruddy Ducks** included one at the mouth of Nanjemoy Creek on June 11 (Callahan), two females at Gateway on June 25–26 (Sunell, Ralph Stokes), a male at Centennial on June 29 (fide Peruzzi), a male at Wilde Lake from July 8 through August 6 (Doug Odermatt +), two at Great Oak Pond on July 22 (Ellison), one at Horsehead on Aug. 16 (H. Holbrook), one male at Easton WWTP on Aug. 17–20 (Reese +), six at Hurlock from Aug. 18 through Sept. 14 (H. Holbrook, Brighton +), three at Ridgely on Aug. 20 (Hafner), and one at Smoot Bay, PG Aug. 28 (Stasz).

*Diurnal Raptors, Pheasant, Turkeys, Rallids.* **Ospreys** that were not at breeding sites were single birds at Pylesville on June 1 (J. & L. Fry), Hunting Creek, FR on June 4 and 26 (Balestri), Lake Elkhorn on June 9 (Neri), Gateway on June 11–20 (Wilkinson), Woodmont, WA on June 14 and July 1 (Weesner), Herrington Manor SP on June 16 (H. & R. Holbrook), Rocky Gorge Reservoir on July 1 (Solem), and the Glades, GA on July 13 (Pope). A **Mississippi Kite** was seen at St. Mary's City on July 7 (Ernie Willoughby). Two **Northern Harriers** at Dans Mountain on June 28 (Sires) may indicate breeding there. Rare in summer, a **Sharp-shinned Hawk** was at Oxford on June 14 (Allen), one was at Swan Point, CH on July 16 (Stasz, Hafner), and one was at Dans Mountain on July 16 (Sires). Nesting Sharp-shinned Hawks were found in Frederick Co. by William Rogers and Tom Humphreys; a pair near Urbana in May and early June was apparently unsuccessful, but a nest with four young (banded on July 1) was found at Hawbottom and all fledged. Young **Cooper's Hawks** were in a nest at Pylesville on June 11 (J. & L. Fry). A pair of **Northern Goshawks** successfully raised young in Garrett Co. this year (Brinker). Coastal Plain sightings of **Broad-winged Hawks** included one at Millington WMA on July 20 (Stasz) and a nest with young near Ridge on July 26 (Craig). An **American Kestrel** near Elliott Island on July 21 (Armistead) was probably an early migrant. A male **Ring-necked Pheasant** was near Wye Mills, TA on June 4 (Reese). Reese counted 31 **Wild Turkeys**, including 27 young, at Bozman on July 14. At least three

**Virginia Rails** were heard at Finzel on June 7 (Iliff +). Summering **American Coots** were 14 at Havre de Grace from May 29 through June 9 (D. Webb +) with one there on July 20 (Stasz) and one at Lake Elkhorn on July 12-16 (Neri +).

*Shorebirds.* Late spring migrants were four **Black-bellied Plovers** at Pone Island on June 1 (Armistead) and one at Ocean City on June 2 (Arnold, DeCarli). A **Semipalmated Plover** was early at Hart-Miller on July 6 (D. Bystrak). Four **Black-necked Stilts** were seen at Deal Island WMA on July 12 (*vide* H. Holbrook). Two **American Avocets** were at Hart-Miller on June 8 (Scarpulla) and one was at Lake Needwood, MO on July 21 (Marko +). **Willet** nests with four eggs and one egg were found on Holland Island on June 1 (Armistead). Likely migrant **Spotted Sandpipers** were one at Ocean City on June 2 (Arnold, DeCarli) and one at Loch Raven on July 1 (Lev), but one at Greenbrier SP on June 17 (Weesner) may have been breeding locally. On July 13 Balestri saw an adult Spotted Sandpiper with one downy young at Mason Dixon Farm. Post-breeding **Upland Sandpipers** were one at Alpha Ridge Landfill on July 6 (Cullison) and 13 at PRNAS on July 25 (Rambo). The only **Whimbrel** of the season was at Assateague on July 13 (H. Holbrook). The only **Red Knots** of the season were five at Ocean City on June 2 (Arnold, DeCarli). Migrant **Sanderlings** included 11 at Adam Island, DO on June 1 (Armistead) and three at Assateague on July 13 (H. Holbrook). Fall migrant **Semipalmated Sandpipers** included one at Lakeside on July 7 (Larkin) and 36 near Millington on July 24 (Ellison). **Western Sandpipers** included two at North Beach on July 24 (Shaffer) and 20 near Millington on July 24 (Ellison). The first fall **Least Sandpiper** was one at New Windsor on July 4 (Ringer); local highs were 1,490 at Hart-Miller on July 20 (Ricciardi, D. Bystrak), 35 at Elliott Island on July 21 (Armistead), and 60 near Millington on July 24-25 (Ellison). Five **White-rumped Sandpipers** were at Hart-Miller on June 8 (Scarpulla). The first **Pectoral Sandpiper** of the fall was one at Assateague on July 13 (H. Holbrook). The only **Stilt Sandpipers** reported were four at North Beach on July 24 (Stasz +). Reports of **Short-billed Dowitchers** included nine at Hart-Miller on July 6 (D. Bystrak), 50 at Assateague on July 13 (H. Holbrook), five at North Beach on July 24 (Shaffer), and two near Millington on July 24 (Ellison). A **Common Snipe** was heard winnowing at Patuxent River Park, PG on June 1-7 (Jeff Shenot). Mary Paul and Dan Boone saw an **American Woodcock** at Heritage Island, DC on July 11.

*Jaeger, Gulls, Terns.* A sub-adult **Long-tailed Jaeger** was seen from a boat off Ocean City on June 4 (Kevin Fehskens). An immature **Franklin's Gull** was at Hart-Miller on June 8 (Scarpulla). There were 1,035 **Ring-billed Gulls** summering at Hart-Miller on July 6 (D. Bystrak); one at Leonardtown on July 24 (Craig) may have been a returning migrant. On June 1 there were 13 **Herring Gull** nests with three eggs each at Holland Island and 29 nests with three eggs each at South Marsh Island (Armistead). At least eight downy young Herring Gulls were at Ocean City on June 2 (Arnold, DeCarli). Summering **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** at Hart-Miller were noted as follows: three (two first-summer, one second-summer) on June 8 (Scarpulla), four (one adult, 3 immatures) on July 6 (D. Bystrak), and two (one first-summer, one second-summer) on July 20 through Aug. 10 (Ricciardi, D. Bystrak). Large downy young **Great Black-backed Gulls** were at Spring Island on June 1 (Armistead), two downy young at Ocean City on June 2 (Arnold, DeCarli), 890 birds at Hart-Miller on July 6 (D. Bystrak), and 110 birds at PRNAS on July 24 (Rambo). The **Kelp Gull** was seen again at Sandgates, SM on July 7 (Kostenko, T. Bell) and probably was there periodically through the season. Since **Caspian Terns** do not nest in the state summer reports of them are always interesting. This season three were at Upper Marlboro on June 10 (Stasz), one at Allens Fresh on June 18 (Stasz), one at Cornfield Harbor on June 26 (Craig), 140 at Hart-Miller on July 6 (D. Bystrak), one at Havre de Grace on July 10 (Hafner, Carney), and one near Ewell, Smith Island on July

18 (Armistead +). Three **Royal Terns** at Hart-Miller on June 8 (Scarpulla) were unusual; 117 were banded at Ocean City on July 22 (Brinker, John Weske +). Two **Sandwich Terns** were seen at Ocean City on June 2 (Arnold, DeCarli) and July 14 (H. Holbrook). Seven **Least Terns** were at Lakeside on July 10 (Hafner, Carney).

*Hummingbird, Sapsuckers, Woodpeckers.* A **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** nest with eggs was on a rusty chain hanging inside a shed at an Amish farm in Pleasant Valley on May 25 (Pope). A **Belted Kingfisher** at Elliott Island on July 21 (Armistead) was probably a migrant. Pope noted seven **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** in four known nesting areas in Garrett Co. on Apr. 14 and birds still present at three sites on June 6 including two carrying food for young. A **Hairy Woodpecker** was carrying food for young at Turkey Point on May 5 (Stasz, Boyd). A **Pileated Woodpecker** was feeding two fledglings at Upper Marlboro on May 16 (Shaffer).

*Flycatchers, Vireos, Ravens.* An **Eastern Phoebe** near Drawbridge, DO on July 21 (Armistead) may have been a migrant. The **Western Kingbird** at Fort McHenry remained from the spring through June 21 (Peters +). An **Eastern Kingbird** was observed stealing nesting material from a nest being built by a pair of **Yellow Warblers** at Broadford Lake on May 27 (Pope). Two **Blue-headed Vireos** seen nest-building at Soldiers Delight on June 9 (Costley +) were far from any other known breeders. A Blue-headed Vireo was feeding a fledgling **Brown-headed Cowbird** near Lambs Knoll on July 19 and one was heard singing near Foxville, FR on Aug. 1 (Julie Maynard). A **Warbling Vireo** singing at Centreville from May through July 17 (Reese) was rare there. The 16 **Common Ravens** at Mt. Nebo WMA on June 16 (R. & H. Holbrook) were a remarkable number.

*Swallows.* Swallows are among the earliest recognizable migrants in the fall. This year migrant **Tree Swallows**, **Northern Rough-winged Swallows**, and **Barn Swallows** were at Swan Harbor Farm on July 14 (Larkin). Other early Rough-wings were two at Hart-Miller on July 6 (D. Bystrak) and 42 at Hughes Hollow on July 7 (Woodward). Migrant **Bank Swallows** included three at Hart-Miller on July 6 (D. Bystrak), one at UMCF on July 6 (Ott), one at Perryman on July 10 (Hafner, Carney), one at Rigby's Folly on July 13 (Armistead), and 20 at Chestertown on July 30 (Reese). Unique on the Eastern Shore, two or three pairs of **Cliff Swallows** were found nesting at Brookview in late June and there were two active nests at Sharptown, WI on July 2 (Davidson, Wierenga). A migrant Cliff Swallow was at Fort McHenry on July 16 (Peters).

*Nuthatches, Creeper, Wren, Thrushes, Waxwings.* Possible nesting **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were two at Keyzers Ridge, GA on June 8 (Ellison +) and one at Herrington Manor SP on June 16 (H. & R. Holbrook). A **Brown-headed Nuthatch** was feeding two fledglings at JEDS on May 31 (Reese). Iliff photographed a **Brown Creeper** nest near Swallow Falls SP on June 5. A **Sedge Wren** singing at Cherry Creek Glades, GA from May was observed nest-building on June 9 (Ellison +) and two were singing there on June 18 (Pope). A **Hermit Thrush** nest with four eggs was found near Foxtown, GA on June 8 (Robbins +). A **Wood Thrush** nest at Webster, HA on May 14 contained one thrush egg and one **Brown-headed Cowbird** egg (D. Webb). Fledgling **Cedar Waxwings** were seen at Pylesville on June 18 (J. & L. Fry).

*Warblers.* A singing male **Chestnut-sided Warbler** at Washington Monument SP on June 3 (Weesner) may have stayed to breed. Single **Yellow-rumped Warblers** were singing at McHenry and Swallow Falls SP on June 9 (Ellison). A Yellow-rump banded at PRNAS on

June 25 by Patty Craig and Bryan Hoogerwerf is inexplicable. A **Yellow-throated Warbler** was feeding a fledgling cowbird at Flag Ponds on May 27 (Stasz); up to two males were on territory at Youghiogheny River Reservoir on June 15 (Pope). Eastman found a pair of **Cerulean Warblers** feeding a fallen nestling at Susquehanna SP on June 9. An **American Redstart** at Dameron on July 22 (Craig) was probably a migrant. One or two male **Prothonotary Warblers** were singing at Youghiogheny River Reservoir on June 15 (Pope). A female **Worm-eating Warbler** with a brood patch was banded on June 20 by Jim Peters and Barbara Ross at Fort McHenry where the species does not nest.

*Towhee, Sparrows.* An **Eastern Towhee** nest with two eggs and one young was near Maryland, CN on May 21 (Reese). A species which has never bred in the state, **Clay-colored Sparrow**, was singing at Finzel on June 17 (Robbins, Barbara Dowell). A rare breeder in Wicomico Co., a **Vesper Sparrow** was singing at Sharptown on July 7-13 (Lawler). A **Savannah Sparrow** flying over UMCF on June 17 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem) was in a potential breeding area. Harry Armistead counted 36 **Seaside Sparrows** on June 1 at Bloodsworth Island. A **Swamp Sparrow** was calling at UMCF on June 17 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem). A **White-throated Sparrow** was heard singing at Meadowbrook on June 2 (Tveekrem) and one was at Glenn Dale, PG in early June (Beal). A **Dark-eyed Junco** was at Dans Mountain on July 2 and was present for more than a week (Sires). Juncos are known to breed only at higher elevations in Garrett Co.

*Cardinaline Finches, Icterids, Siskins.* A **Northern Cardinal** on Holland Island on June 1 (Armistead) was a rarity there. An immature male **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** was out of place at Queenstown on June 26 (Poet). An **Indigo Bunting** nest at Lock 56, C&O Canal, WA on June 23 contained one nestling bunting and one nestling cowbird (Ringler). Two **Dickcissels** were singing near Keysville on June 8 (P. Webb, Sanford), two were singing near Ingleside on June 14-28 (Ellison, N. Martin), and a color-banded male had returned for its third breeding season at Chino Farms (*vide* Hafner). A male **Bobolink** flying over Hughes Hollow on June 11 (Woodward) and a singing male flying over UMCF on June 17 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem) may have been straggling migrants. One Bobolink was singing on territory near Keysville on June 15-22 (P. Webb +) and one was singing at another site near Keysville on June 22 (Stasz, Hafner). About 750 **Common Grackles** were flocking at St. Michaels on July 31 (Reese). Two fledgling **Pine Siskins** were near Swallow Falls SP on June 23 (Pope).

*Exotics.* Two **Black Swans** were at Pone Island on June 1 (Armistead). A white **Budgerigar** at Bladensburg on June 10 (Shaffer) was certainly an escaped pet. The **Monk Parakeet** that had built a nest at Maryland City, AA in the spring was burned out in June, probably by an electrical fire, and the bird was not seen again. A Monk Parakeet was seen near Leeds, CE on June 29 and into July (*vide* Gary Griffith).

## FALL MIGRATION: AUG. 1–NOV. 30, 2002

The continuing drought produced good inland shorebirding where reservoirs provided fresh mudflats. Heavy rains began in September and produced good shorebirding in some farm fields and ponds. Among the warblers the spruce budworm specialists were notable by their near absence but it was a great fall for Palm Warblers.

*Loons, Grebes.* The first **Red-throated Loons** of the season were single flyovers at Assateague on Oct. 13 (Hafner +) and Turkey Point on Oct. 20 (McCandless +). Other Red-

throated Loons away from the coast were one at Hains Point on Nov. 16 (Bowen), three at Little Meadows Lake on Nov. 17 (Stasz, Churchill), one at Cobb Island on Nov. 23 (Stasz), and one at Point Lookout on Nov. 26 (H. Holbrook). The **Pacific Loon** summering at Clopper Lake, Seneca Creek SP continued at that site through Oct. 2 and the **Common Loon** there stayed through Sept. 13 (Powell +). Early concentrations of Common Loons were 30 at Rigby's Folly on Oct. 20 (Armistead), 50 at Point Lookout on Nov. 8 (Craig, Cribb), and 45 at Hooper Island on Nov. 20 (Armistead). It was Nov. 26, however, that produced the overwhelming numbers of Common Loons with 28 at Liberty Lake, BA/CL (Ellis), 100 flying over Herrington Manor SP and 60 at Broadford Lake (Pope), and 370 flying over Washington Monument SP (Paul Newton, Hugh Mahanes, Nolan Britt). Early **Pied-billed Grebes** were three at Loch Raven on Aug. 24 (Lev), one at Swan Harbor Farm on Aug. 25 (Larkin), and two at Selby Bay on Aug. 28 (Stasz); highs were 54 at Havre de Grace on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd), 25 at Piney Run on Nov. 11 (Ringler), and 37 at Loch Raven on Nov. 28 (Jenkins). Exceptionally early **Horned Grebes** were one at Triadelphia on Sept. 29 (Kevin Heffernan, Karen Darcy) and one at Havre de Grace on Oct. 6 (Hafner); highs were 22 at Terrapin on Nov. 24 (Ellison), 24 at Hooper Island on Nov. 30 (Brighton, H. Holbrook), and 18 at McHenry on Nov. 30 (Stasz). Single **Eared Grebes** were seen at Hurlock on Sept. 14-22 (Hoffman +), Upper Marlboro on Sept. 27 (Shaffer), Baltimore Harbor, BC on Oct. 12 (Blom), and Point Lookout on Oct. 14-15 (Waanders +).

*Tube-noses, Gannets.* Seen during a pelagic trip on Aug. 18 were two **Cory's Shearwaters**, six **Audubon's Shearwaters**, and 73 **Wilson's Storm-Petrels** (Stasz +). Seen during a Nov. 16 pelagic trip were 20 **Greater Shearwaters** (Gustafson, Guris +). Seen in Chesapeake Bay during an Aug. 8 ferry ride were two Wilson's Storm-Petrels off Smith Island and one off Point Lookout (Stasz, Hafner); two were seen off Point Lookout and one in Somerset Co. waters on Aug. 13 (Cribb). The first report of **Northern Gannets** was 25 off Assateague on Oct. 12 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer) and the first report in Chesapeake Bay was of four off Point Lookout and 20 off Elms Beach on Nov. 5 (Craig). Numbers in the bay quickly built to 75-100 between Point Lookout and Point No Point, SM on Nov. 9 (Cribb), 300 off Lowes Wharf on Nov. 11 (Roslund), 23 at North Beach on Nov. 18 (Stasz), nine at Hooper Island on Nov. 20 (Armistead), six off Cobb Island and 42 off Colonial Beach, Virginia in Charles Co. waters of the Potomac River on Nov. 23 (Stasz), and 22 off Kent Island on Nov. 24 (Stasz).

*Pelicans, Cormorants.* Sightings of **American White Pelicans** were one at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 17-29 (H. Holbrook +), two on the Potomac River near Selby Bay, PG/DC on Oct. 9-15 (Atwood +), and one off Point Lookout in the Potomac River on Nov. 8 (Cribb). Reports of **Brown Pelicans** included 500 at Smith Island on Aug. 13 (Cribb), 200 at Ocean City on Aug. 25 (Churchill), 63 at Cornfield Harbor on Oct. 22 (Cribb), two off Bivalve on Oct. 26 (Brighton), 229 at Hooper Island on Nov. 20, and 70 there on the 30th (Armistead). Other Nov. 30 sightings were 15 at Point Lookout (Churchill), five at Tilghman Island (Reese), and one at Ocean City (Lovelace). **Double-crested Cormorants** continue to be found in increasing numbers throughout the state including these notable reports from upland counties: 11 at Weverton, WA on Aug. 11 (Stasz), two at Big Pool on Sept. 15 (Churchill), seven at Piney Run on Oct. 13 (Ringler), 90 flying over Ellicott City on Oct. 20 (Ott), 125 at Broadford Lake on Oct. 30 (Pope), one at Piney Reservoir and one at Rocky Gap on Nov. 17 (Churchill), one at Loch Raven on Nov. 26 (Graff), and one at Piney Run on Nov. 28 (Ringler, Ellis). The rivers continue to be major flyways for cormorants as Starling reported 1,000 on the Susquehanna at Conowingo Dam on Nov. 6, 200 were on the Patuxent at Chalk Point, CT/PG on Nov. 23 (Stasz), and 113 were on the Potomac in Charles Co. waters off Colonial Beach, Virginia also on Nov. 23 (Stasz). Other reports of late cormorants were one at Perry Point on

Nov. 20 (Starling), three at Hooper Island on Nov. 30 (Armistead), and 12 at Tilghman Island on Nov. 30 (Reese). The numerous reports of **Great Cormorants** included two at Sharps Island Light, TA on Oct. 6 (Stasz), one at Point Lookout on Oct. 9-15 (Stasz +), four flying over Assateague on Oct. 13 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer), one at Waterside, PG on Oct. 15 (Stasz), three at Cornfield Harbor on Oct. 22 (Cribb), one at Lapidum on Nov. 2 (Stasz, Hafner), three at Ocean City on Nov. 2 (F. & N. Saunders), four at Blackwalnut Point on Nov. 10 (Ellison, N. Martin), one in the mouth of the Chester River, KE/QA on Nov. 15 (Ellison +), six in the Point Lookout area on Nov. 21 (Cribb), one at Eastern Neck on Nov. 23 (Ellison), one at Allens Fresh on Nov. 23 (Stasz), one at Rock Hall on Nov. 24 (Stasz), and one at Ocean Pines on Nov. 29 (Hafner, Baer).

*Herons, Ibises, Vultures.* Single **American Bitterns** were seen at UMCF on Oct. 13-18 (Ott +), New Windsor on Oct. 20 (Ringler, Ellis), Hughes Hollow on Oct. 26 (Sussman), Cabin Creek, QA on Nov. 11 (Stasz), Terrapin on Nov. 24 (Ellison), and Truitts Landing on Nov. 29 (Hafner +). The only **Least Bittern** of the season was at Jug Bay on Oct. 13 (D. Bystrak). Notable **Great Blue Herons** were 11 at Liberty Lake, CL on Aug. 17 (Ringler, Terry), 28 at Assateague on Oct. 12 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer), one over the Atlantic Ocean 35 miles offshore on Nov. 16 (Gustafson, Guris +), and 20 at Mattawoman NEA on Nov. 24 (Gheblian). Concentrations of **Great Egrets** were 40 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 17 (Stasz, H. Holbrook) and 72 at Bishops Head Point, DO on Sept. 8 (Armistead); other reports included three at Big Pool on Sept. 15 (Churchill), seven at Perry Point on Oct. 6 (Starling), one at Lake Elkhorn on Nov. 6 (Neri), 1 at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Nov. 24 (Bowen), and one at Mattawoman NEA on Nov. 29 (Jett, Brewer). Notable **Snowy Egrets** were 32 at North Beach on Aug. 14 (Stasz), 60 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 17 (Stasz), 135 at Bishops Head Point, DO on Sept. 8 (Armistead), one at New Windsor on Sept. 21 (Ringler), one at St. Michaels on Oct. 27 (Reese), and one at Hooper Island on Nov. 3 (Armistead). Interesting reports of **Little Blue Herons** were an immature at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Aug. 4 (Hilton), two immatures at Beauvue and one immature at Rodo Beach, SM on Aug. 8 (Stasz, Hafner), an immature at Youghiogheny River Reservoir where very rare on Aug. 10-17 (Churchill +), an immature at Liberty Lake, CL on Aug. 11 (Ringler, Terry), 161 at Smith Island on Aug. 13 (Cribb), and an immature at California on Sept. 24 (T. Bell). A **Tricolored Heron** was at Point Lookout on Aug. 29 (Cribb), 17 were at Bishops Head Point, DO on Sept. 8 (Armistead), and eight were at Ocean City on Sept. 29 (F. & N. Saunders). An immature **Cattle Egret** at Lilypons on Aug. 9-11 (Stasz +) was the farthest inland; others were 85 at Long Green, BA on Aug. 22 (Jenkins), 22 at Scotland on Sept. 12 (Craig), 10 at Wootons Landing on Sept. 23 (Stasz), six near Abingdon, HA on Sept. 27 (Jean Wheeler), and one at Assateague on Oct. 13 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer). Bowen found 12 **Green Herons** at Hughes Hollow on Aug. 29; late birds were one at Roosevelt Island on Nov. 1 (Marko) and one at Hughes Hollow on Nov. 3 (Czaplak). Among the reports of **Black-crowned Night-Herons** were eight at Silver Spring on Aug. 4 (Stasz), 18 at Tilghman Island on Sept. 29 (Reese), one near Tuckahoe Creek, CN on Oct. 6 (Stasz), and two immatures at Piney Run on Nov. 28 (Ringler, Ellis). Reports of **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons** were an immature at North Beach on Aug. 7 (Ripley), an immature at Solomons, CT on Sept. 5 (Hamilton, Paula Bohaska), one at Bloodsworth Island on Sept. 9 (Armistead), an immature at Milford Mill Park on Sept. 17 (J. Martin), and two immatures at Western Run, BA on Sept. 30 (Joe Halloran). A **Glossy Ibis** was at Beauvue on Aug. 8 (Stasz, Hafner), one at North Beach on Aug. 22 (Stasz), four at Rum Pointe Golf Course on Sept. 6 (C. & D. Broderick), and one near Ridge on Oct. 16 (Craig, Cribb). On Oct. 3 Reese found 36 **Black Vultures** and 100 **Turkey Vultures** on a tower near Trappe, TA. Other Black Vultures were 24 at Chesapeake Landing on Oct. 8 (Ellison), 30 at Coveys Landing, TA/CN

on Nov. 8 (Stasz), 100 at Conowingo Dam on Nov. 10 (Starling), and 20 at Allens Fresh on Nov. 23 (Stasz).

*Geese, Swans.* Early **Snow Geese** were nine at Great Oak Pond on Sept. 14 (Ellison, N. Martin), one at PRR on Sept. 24 (Frank McGilvrey), and one at Pinto on Sept. 29 through Nov. 24 (Churchill +). The largest concentrations of Snow Geese were 5,000 (including 85 blues) at Great Oak Pond on Oct. 25 (Ellison, N. Martin), 1,500 at Blackwater on Oct. 19 (Lovelace), 7,000 at Worton on Oct. 31 (N. Martin), and 3,000 at Berlin on Nov. 9 (Churchill). Snow Geese at other locations included 15–20 flying over Laurel, PG on Oct. 26 (Frank Boyle), two blues at Easton on Oct. 27 (Allen +), 37 flying over Violettes Lock on Oct. 29 (Czaplak), 4 blues at Broadford Lake on Oct. 30 with one white and one blue there on Nov. 26 (Pope), 1 blue at APL on Nov. 13–16 (Wilkerson +), and 60 at Bethesda on Nov. 20 (Hilton, Shannon). An adult **Ross's Goose** was at Great Oak Pond on Oct. 5, two were there the next day together with a hybrid **Snow Goose X Ross's Goose**, two adults and one immature were there on Oct. 25, and one adult remained at least through Nov. 24 (Ellison +). One Ross's Goose was at Hurlock from Oct. 13 through Nov. 10 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer +), one was at Federalsburg on Nov. 25 (Lovelace), one was flying over Truitts Landing and one flying over South Point on Nov. 29 (Hafner +), and an immature white and an immature blue were at Hurlock on Nov. 30 (Brighton, H. Holbrook). Late summer flocks of **Canada Geese** were 310 at Triadelphia on Aug. 9 (Stasz), 25 at Smith Island on Aug. 13 (Armistead +), and 1,150 at Liberty Lake, CL on Aug. 25 (Ringler); single birds in unusual plumages were an albino flying over Kenilworth Park on Oct. 14 (Pisano) and one with the head and neck white at PRR in early November (Noyes +). Sightings of small races of Canada Geese were two on Great Oak Pond from Oct. 5 through Nov. 24 (Ellison +), one at Swan Harbor Farm on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd), one flying over Loch Raven on Oct. 29 (E. Kirschbaum +), one at Lake Artemesia on Nov. 3 (Mozurkewich), two at Blackwater on Nov. 20 (Armistead), one near Melitota, KE on Nov. 23 (Ellison), and one at Centennial on Nov. 27 (H. Holbrook). Two hybrid **Greylag Goose X Canada Goose** were at Great Oak Pond on Oct. 4 (Ellison). Three **Brant** at Ocean City on Sept. 29 (F. & N. Saunders) tied the state arrival record; single birds at unusual locations were at West Potomac Park, DC on Oct. 24–26 (Fellely +), Fort McHenry on Oct. 26–28 (Peters +), and Lowes Wharf on Nov. 11 (Roslund). **Mute Swans** at unusual locations were one at Rum Pointe Golf Course on Sept. 6 (C. & D. Broderick) and one at Loch Raven on Oct. 27 (Jenkins, Terry); high numbers were 375 at Hooper Island on Nov. 20 (Armistead) and 230 at Tilghman Island on Nov. 30 (Reese). The **Tundra Swan** summering near Roosevelt Island continued to be seen through the season (Pisano +). A Tundra Swan at Rock Hall on Sept. 8 (Ellison) also probably summered locally. The first migrants to be noted were seven at Piscataway Creek on Oct. 28 (Marcia Nelson); later flocks were 204 at Broadford Lake on Oct. 30 (Pope), 82 at Hooper Island on Nov. 2 (Armistead), and 255 in seven flocks flying over Rigby's Folly on Nov. 3 (Armistead).

*Puddle Ducks.* Lingered **Wood Ducks** were a male at Mattawoman NEA on Nov. 29 (Jett, Brewer) and one at Perryman on Dec. 1 (Larkin). An early **Gadwall** was at Ridgely on Oct. 6 (Reese) and an astounding 500 were at Havre de Grace on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd) dwarfing the 17 at Triadelphia on Oct. 31 (H. Holbrook) and 40 at Piney Run on Nov. 28 (Ringler). Early **American Wigeon** were one male at North East River, CE on Sept. 11 (Starling), one at Great Oak Pond on Sept. 21 (N. Martin), and one at Ocean Pines on Sept. 25 (H. & R. Holbrook); highs were 260 at Loch Raven on Nov. 28 (Jenkins) and 600 at Mattawoman NEA on Nov. 29 (Jett, Brewer). Eighty **American Black Ducks** were on Liberty Lake, BA on Nov. 22 (Ringler). High numbers of **Mallards** included 294 at Selby Bay on Aug. 28 (Stasz) and

450 at Blackwater on Oct. 20 (Reese, Stone). A hybrid **American Black Duck X Mallard** was at Blackwater on Nov. 30 (Armistead). A **Blue-winged Teal** seen flying east over the Atlantic Ocean at Baltimore Canyon on Aug. 18 (Stasz +) was ambitious. Stasz found 50 Blue-winged Teal at Blackwater on Sept. 18, and a late migrant male was at Westminster on Nov. 8 (Ringler). Early **Northern Shovelers** were 10 at Hurlock on Aug. 24 (Churchill) and two at Loch Raven on Aug. 25 (Jenkins, Terry); high numbers were 75 at Chestertown on Sept. 15 (Stasz), 113 at Hurlock on Oct. 12 (Stasz), 117 at Poplar Island on Oct. 22 (Reese), 70 at Chesapeake Farms on Nov. 16 (Ellison), and 200 at Mattawoman NEA on Nov. 29 (Jett, Brewer). High counts of **Northern Pintails** were 82 at Great Oak Pond on Nov. 5 and 230 at Chesapeake Farms on Nov. 16 (Ellison), 225 at Blackwater on Nov. 20 (Armistead), and 500 at Mattawoman NEA on Nov. 24 (Ghebelian). Early **Green-winged Teal** were nine at Great Oak Pond on Aug. 24 (Ellison), eight at Loch Raven on Aug. 25 (Jenkins, Terry), and one at Mason Dixon Farm on Aug. 31 (Weesner); highs were 400 at Blackwater on Sept. 18 (Stasz), 136 at Easton on Oct. 27 (Reese, Allen), 103 at Great Oak Pond on Oct. 31 through Nov. 5 (Ellison), and 30 at Piney Run on Nov. 11 (Ringler).

*Diving Ducks.* Early **Redheads** were a male at Piney Run on Oct. 6 (Ringler) and a male at Loch Raven on Oct. 13 (Jenkins) growing to 81 at the latter site on Nov. 30 (Graff). Two **Ring-necked Ducks** at Great Oak Pond on Sept. 7 (Ellison) and an immature male at Beauvue on Sept. 10 (Stasz) probably summered locally; early migrants were six at Piney Run on Oct. 6 (Ringler). Highs for Ring-necked Ducks were 500 at Little Seneca Lake on Nov. 19 (Bowen), 487 at Loch Raven on Nov. 28 (Jenkins), 2,300 at Piney Run on Nov. 28 (Ringler, Ellis), and 300 at Perryville on Nov. 28 (Starling). The first **Greater Scaup** of the season were five at Eastern Neck on Oct. 13 (Ellison, N. Martin, Mann) and three at Conowingo Lake on Nov. 2 (Stasz, Hafner) were uncommon there. A female **Lesser Scaup** at Selby Bay on Aug. 28 (Stasz) probably summered locally; one at Poplar Island on Sept. 25 to Oct. 7 (Reese) may have done likewise. Local highs for Lesser Scaup were 64 at Conowingo Lake on Nov. 2 (Stasz, Hafner), 1,069 at Poplar Island on Nov. 15 (Reese), and 50 at Broadford Lake on Nov. 26 (Pope). A possible male **Ring-necked Duck X Lesser Scaup** was at Perryman on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd). An adult male **Harlequin Duck** was at Point Lookout on Nov. 11 and into the winter (Waanders, Kline +) and a male was at Ocean City on Nov. 29 (Brighton, H. Holbrook). Reports of **Surf Scoters** included three at Wades Point on Oct. 13 (Reese, Roslund), three at Liberty Lake, BA on Oct. 22 (Ringler), one at Greenbrier SP on Oct. 29 (Weesner), 170 at Hooper Island on Nov. 20 (Armistead), 300 in the Point Lookout area on Nov. 21 (Cribb), and 250 at Tilghman Island on Nov. 24 (Reese). **White-winged Scoters** that probably summered here were a male at Horsehead on Aug. 30 (Crabtree) and an immature at Eastern Neck on Aug. 31 (Ringler +); others were one at Hurlock on Oct. 19-22 (Lovelace +), two there on the 21st (Jenkins), 15 at Horsehead on Nov. 3 (Ellison, N. Martin), six at Ocean City on Nov. 10 (Churchill), eight at Tilghman Island on Nov. 24 (Reese), and five at Point Lookout on Nov. 27 (Shaffer). Reports of **Black Scoters** were one at Point Lookout on Oct. 6 (Craig, Bishop), one at Seneca on Oct. 31 (Czaplak), 14 on the Susquehanna River, HA on Nov. 2 (Hafner, Stasz), two at Horsehead on Nov. 3 (Ellison, N. Martin), two at Piney Run on Nov. 5 (Ringler), 29 at Poplar Island on Nov. 15 (Reese), and 100 at Point Lookout on Nov. 30 (Churchill). The first **Long-tailed Duck** of the season was at Sandy Point SP on Oct. 27 (Shaffer) followed by two at Piney Run on Nov. 5 (Ringler), 230 on oyster beds in the mouth of the Chester River, KE/QA on Nov. 15 (Ellison +), one at Broadford Lake on Nov. 16 (Stasz), one at Little Meadows Lake and four at Rocky Gap on Nov. 17-18 (Churchill +), six at Chalk Point, PG on Nov. 23 (Stasz), 400 at Tilghman Island on Nov. 24 (Reese), 20 on the Potomac River off the Naval Research Lab, DC on Nov. 26 (Mozurkewich), and 100 at Point Lookout on Nov. 30 (Churchill). Early **Buffleheads** were seven at Tilghman Island on



Oct. 15 (Reese, Allen), one at Great Oak Pond on Oct. 19 (Ellison, N. Martin), one at Piney Run on Oct. 20 (Ringler), and one at Havre de Grace on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd). Highs for Buffleheads were 75 at Conowingo Lake on Nov. 2 (Stasz, Hafner), 100 at Point Lookout on Nov. 8 (Craig, Cribb), 320 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 16 (Ellison), 96 at McHenry on Nov. 17 (Stasz), 60 at Little Meadows Lake and 28 at Piney Reservoir on Nov. 17 (Churchill), 140 at Hooper Island on Nov. 20 and 490 at Rigby's Folly on Nov. 24 (Armistead), 600 at Tilghman Island on Nov. 24 (Reese), and 45 at Triadelphia on Nov. 27 (H. Holbrook, Arnold). Five early **Common Goldeneyes** were at Point Lookout on Oct. 20 (Craig, Bishop). Highs for **Hooded Mergansers** were 28 at Breeze Point Farm WWTP on Nov. 23 (Stasz), 65 at Piney Run on Nov. 28 (Ringler), and 50 at Mattawoman NEA on Nov. 29 (Jett, Brewer). Eight early **Common Mergansers** were at Lapidum on Nov. 2 (Stasz, Hafner) and a female at Truitts Landing on Nov. 29 (Hafner +) was rare there. Early **Red-breasted Mergansers** were five at Point Lookout on Oct. 6 (Craig, Bishop) and one at Indian Head on Oct. 20 (Jean Artes); 50 were at Broadford Lake on Nov. 26 (Pope). A mixture of summering and early migrant **Ruddy Ducks** were represented by three at Centennial on Sept. 14 (Holdridge), two at Great Oak Pond on Sept. 15 (Ellison, N. Martin), 13 at Hurlock on Sept. 21 (Armistead), seven at Ridgely on Sept. 21 (Poet), six at Poplar Island on Sept. 25 (Reese), and two at Marshy Point, BA on

**TABLE 1:**  
**MIGRANT VULTURES & DIURNAL RAPTORS, FALL 2002**  
**TURKEY POINT, CECIL COUNTY**  
Compiled by Dave Kimball

SPECIES	FIRST	LAST	TOTAL	BIG DAYS
Black Vulture	9/28	11/26	45	9 on 9/28, 8 on 10/29
Turkey Vulture	9/2	11/29	615	84 on 10/21, 83 on 10/29
Osprey	9/1	11/8	111	13 on 10/6
Bald Eagle	9/2	11/27	200	23 on 10/8
Northern Harrier	9/5	11/26	35	3 on 10/29
Sharp-shinned Hawk	9/3	11/28	528	228 on 9/28, 113 on 10/19
Cooper's Hawk	9/2	11/28	204	27 on 9/28, 13 on 10/19
Northern Goshawk	10/17	11/26	5	also 1 on 10/22, 27, 29
Red-shouldered Hawk	9/10	11/27	282	70 on 10/29, 59 on 11/1
Broad-winged Hawk	9/5	11/6	103	44 on 9/29, 24 on 10/6
Red-tailed Hawk	9/5	11/28	669	75 on 10/29
Golden Eagle	11/4	11/18	2	
American Kestrel	9/5	11/27	73	9 on 9/28, 8 on 10/1
Merlin	9/11	11/27	26	6 on 10/20
Peregrine Falcon	9/4	10/27	18	3 on 10/5
Unidentified			66	
<b>TOTAL</b>	9/1	11/29	3,982	328 on 9/28, 286 on 10/29

*260.3 hours of observation on 74 days.*

**TABLE 2:**  
**MIGRANT VULTURES & DIURNAL RAPTORS, FALL 2002**  
**HOOPER ISLAND, DORCHESTER COUNTY**  
 Observations on selected dates by Harry Armistead

SPECIES	11/2	11/3	11/20	11/24	11/30
Black Vulture	5		3	5	7
Turkey Vulture	123	94	30	56	6
Osprey	1	1	1		
Northern Harrier	9	3		1	2
Bald Eagle	10	10	5	5	4
Sharp-shinned Hawk	206	40	3	4	
Cooper's Hawk	4	2		1	
Red-shouldered Hawk	8	1			1
Red-tailed Hawk	18	13	3	4	2
Golden Eagle				1	
American Kestrel	7	1			
Merlin	1				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>22</b>

Sept. 25 (Drew Thornblad). Numbers of Ruddy Ducks built to 1,000 at Hurlock on Oct. 18 (Bowen), 213 at Broadford Lake and 40 at Trout Run on Oct. 20 (Pope), 1,000 at Horsehead on Nov. 3 (Ellison, N. Martin), 600 at Piney Run on Nov. 5 (Ringler), 1,946 at Poplar Island on Nov. 15 (Reese), 250 at Little Seneca Lake on Nov. 19 (Bowen), 180 at Chestertown and 550 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 24 (Stasz), and 300 at Perryville on Nov. 28 (Starling).

*Diurnal Raptors.* Late **Ospreys** were one at Grasonville, QA on Nov. 8 (Reese), one at Eastern Neck on Nov. 25 (Ellison), and one at Rigby's Folly on Dec. 1 (Armistead). In Garrett Co. a **Bald Eagle** was at Youghiogheny River Reservoir on Aug. 10 (Stasz, Churchill) and an immature was near Oakland on Sept. 22 (Pope); the high at Conowingo Dam was 89 on Nov. 10 (Eastman). A **Sharp-shinned Hawk** at Frostburg on Aug. 10 (Churchill) may have been a local breeder; definite migrants were 45 at Tilghman Island on Sept. 29 (Reese) and 16 at Point Lookout on Oct. 31 (Cribb). Likely migrant **Cooper's Hawks** were an immature male at Rigby's Folly on Aug. 11 (Armistead), one at Berlin on Aug. 27 (Churchill), one at Great Oak Pond on Aug. 29 (Ellison), one at Magruders Ferry Landing, PG on Aug. 31 (Shaffer), two at Dameron on Sept. 6 (Craig), and eight at Tilghman Island on Sept. 29 (Reese). Reports of **Northern Goshawks** were a sub-adult at North Beach on Sept. 24 (Stasz), an immature at Upper Marlboro on Oct. 14 (Shaffer), an immature at Layhill on Oct. 19 (Sussman), one at Hughes Hollow on Oct. 23 (Woodward), one at Town Hill on Oct. 27 (Stasz, Hafner), and one at Cornfield Harbor on Oct. 27 (Craig, Bishop). The most impressive flights of **Broad-winged Hawks** this fall were 628 at Cromwell Valley Park on Sept. 18 (Jim Meyers +), 300 at UMCF on Sept. 18 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem), and 200 at Chesapeake Landing on Sept. 28 (N.

**TABLE 3:**  
**MIGRANT DIURNAL RAPTORS, FALL 2002**  
**WASHINGTON MONUMENT STATE PARK, WASHINGTON COUNTY**  
*fide* Dave Weesner

SPECIES	BEST DAYS
Osprey	33 on 9/5
Bald Eagle	4 on 9/18
Sharp-shinned Hawk	131 on 10/6
Cooper's Hawk	11 on 10/6
Northern Goshawk	2 on 11/7
Red-shouldered Hawk	9 on 11/7
Broad-winged Hawk	1,035 on 9/23
Red-tailed Hawk	342 on 11/7
Golden Eagle	4 on 10/31
American Kestrel	48 on 10/5
Peregrine Falcon	8 on 10/5, 7 on 10/4

Martin); late birds included one at Ridgely on Oct. 6 (Reese) and one at Skinners Neck, KE the same day (Ellison, N. Martin). Reports of **Rough-legged Hawks** were a dark morph at Blackwater on Oct. 20 (Richard Kleen, Stone +), a light morph at Worton on Oct. 29 (Reese), a light morph near Oakland, GA on Nov. 26 Pope, and one at Washington Monument SP on Nov. 26 (Paul Newton, Hugh Mahanes, Nolan Britt). **Golden Eagles** began with a very early one at Rocky Gap on Sept. 15 (Churchill), followed by an adult soaring over Elk Neck, CE on Oct. 20 (Ellison, N. Martin), an adult at Horsehead on Nov. 17 (Roslund +), two at Town Hill on Nov. 23 (Kiddy) and two immatures there the next day (Churchill, Kiddy). There were over 50 reports of **Merlins** this fall, perhaps the most dramatic increase for all the raptors. August reports of Merlins were one at Perry Point on the 23rd to the 28th (Starling), one at the AFL-CIO Building in DC on the 27th (Eric Raun), and one at Sassafras River NRMA on the 31st (Ellison, N. Martin). Multiple Merlin sightings were three at Cromwell Valley Park on Sept. 17 (Jim Meyers +), two at Central Sod Farms on Sept. 22 (Hafner, Baer, Carney), three at Hurlock on Sept. 28 (H. Holbrook, Brighton), two at St. Michaels on Oct. 12 (Reese), three at Point Lookout on Oct. 18 (Cribb), and three at Mount Pleasant on Oct. 19 (Richard Orr); the latest were one at Pleasant Valley on Nov. 22 (Pope), one at Upper Marlboro on Nov. 26 (Shaffer), and one at Point Lookout on Nov. 27-30 (Cribb +). Sightings of **Peregrine Falcons** away from known nesting sites were one at Rigby's Folly on Sept. 14 (Armistead), one at Odenton, AA on Sept. 22 (Stasz), one at Poplar Island on Sept. 25 and Oct. 7 (Reese), two at Rock Hall on Oct. 4 (Ellison), one at Greensboro on Oct. 6 (Reese), one at Bowie on Oct. 10 (Shaffer), one at Western Regional Park on Oct. 12 (Ott +), one at Schooley Mill Park on Oct. 15 (H. Holbrook), one at Havre de Grace on Nov. 2 (Stasz, Hafner), and one at Liberty Lake, CL on Nov. 22 (Ringler).

*Turkeys, Rallids, Crane.* Talbot Co. sightings of **Wild Turkeys** included 14 at Royal Oak, TA on Aug. 11 (Bill Novack) and 26 at Bozman on Sept. 15 and Oct. 27 (Reese). A

**Black Rail** was heard at Elliott Island on Aug. 23 (Shaffer). Single **King Rails** were heard at Tanyard on Sept. 28 (Stasz), Blackwater on Nov. 20 (Armistead), and Truitts Landing on Nov. 29 (Hafner +). The following **Virginia Rails** were heard this fall: one at Hughes Hollow on Sept. 4 (Simonson), one at Tilghman Island on Sept. 29 (Reese), three at Choptank on Oct. 12 (Stasz), and three at Bridge Creek on Oct. 26 (Brighton). Single **Soras** were at Point Lookout on Aug. 25 (T. Bell, Kostenko), Lilypons on Sept. 6 (Bowen +), found dead at Cumberland on Oct. 2 (*vide* Ringler), heard at Hughes Hollow on Oct. 2-26 (Simonson +), and at Lakeside on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd). Stasz found four **Common Moorhens** at Tanyard on Aug. 25 and two were at Elliott Island on Sept. 21 (Armistead). A bird heard at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Nov. 9-10 (Hilton) may also have been a moorhen but was not positively identified. **American Coots** that probably summered locally were 11 at Piney Run on Aug. 24 and Sept. 1 (Ringler) and one at Loch Raven on Aug. 30 through Sept. 3 (Jenkins); a likely early migrant was at Upper Marlboro on Sept. 9 (Shaffer). High counts of coots were 275 at Havre de Grace on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd), 300 at Piney Run on Nov. 5 (Ringler), 200 at Perryville on Nov. 9 (Starling), and 115 at Deep Creek Lake on Nov. 29 (Stasz). A **Sandhill Crane** was reported at Conowingo Dam on Sept. 28 (Hubbell).

*Plovers.* Reports of **Black-bellied Plovers** included six at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 17 (Stasz, H. Holbrook), four at Ridgely on Oct. 6 (Reese), two there on the 18th (Hafner, Baer), 43 at Poplar Island on Oct. 7 and two there on Nov. 15 (Reese), and two at Blackwater on Nov. 20 (Armistead). **American Golden-Plovers** were widespread with two near Hughes Hollow on Aug. 24-25 (Czaplak +), four at Central Sod Farms on Sept. 3 (Reese, Allen), one at Rum Pointe Golf Course on Sept. 6 (C. & D. Broderick), one at Chesapeake Farms on Sept. 7-8 (Ellison), one at Pickering Creek on Sept. 14 (Stasz), one at PRNAS on Sept. 14-16 (Rambo +), one at Salisbury on Sept. 19 (Stasz), 17 at Hurlock on Sept. 29 (H. Holbrook, Brighton) and two there on Oct. 22 (Shaffer), 51 at Ridgely on Oct. 6 (Reese), and two flying over Easton on Oct. 6 (Stasz). Notable **Semipalmated Plovers** were six at Triadelphia on Aug. 6 (H. Holbrook), one at Funkstown on Aug. 9 (Stasz), five at Tanyard and seven at Terrapin on Aug. 25 (Stasz), three at Youghiogheny River Reservoir on Aug. 31 (Churchill), six at Ridgely on Sept. 20 and nine at Hurlock on Sept. 28 (Stasz), 98 at Poplar Island on Oct. 7 and eight there on Nov. 15 (Reese), and one at Elms Beach on Nov. 6 (Craig). Seven **Piping Plovers** were seen from Eagles Nest on Aug. 30 (Hafner). Locally high counts of **Killdeer** were 34 at Lilypons and 37 at Triadelphia on Aug. 9 (Stasz), 50 at Kingman Lake on Aug. 14 (Bowen), 65 at North Branch on Aug. 17 (Churchill), 20 at Hurlock and 55 at Beulah on Aug. 20 (Hafner), 78 at Liberty Lake, CL on Aug. 25 (Ringler), 157 at Youghiogheny River Reservoir on Aug. 28 (Churchill), 63 at Central Sod Farms on Sept. 8 (Shaffer), 95 at Ridgely on Sept. 20 (Stasz), 128 at Cayots Corner, CE on Oct. 20 (Ellison, N. Martin), 74 at Berlin on Nov. 9 (Churchill), 60 at Blackwater on Nov. 20 (Armistead), and 53 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 24 (Stasz).

*Oystercatchers, Stilts, Avocets.* There were 17 **American Oystercatchers** at Smith Island on Aug. 13 (Armistead +). Two **Black-necked Stilts** were at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 31 (Hafner +). One **American Avocet** was at Deal Island WMA on Sept. 2 (C. & D. Broderick), an adult male was at Great Oak Pond on Sept. 14 (Harvey Mudd +), and two were at Poplar Island from Sept. 14 through Oct. 7 (Reese).

*Tringine Sandpipers.* Late **Greater Yellowlegs** were one at Little Seneca Lake on Nov. 16 (Stasz), one at Liberty Lake, CL on Nov. 17 (Ringler), one in Kent Co. on Nov. 22 (Ellison), and five at Truitts Landing on Nov. 29 (Hafner +). Highs for **Lesser Yellowlegs** were 130 at Great Oak Pond on Aug. 28 (Ellison), 100 (including one leucistic) near Federalsburg

on Sept. 2 (Lovelace), 100 at Chesapeake Farms on Sept. 8 (Ellison), 46 at North Branch on Sept. 15 (Churchill), 416 at Poplar Island on Sept. 25 (Reese), and 75 at Blackwater on Oct. 20 (Reese, Stone); late were 12 at Perryville on Nov. 8 (Starling) and one at Liberty Lake, CL on Nov. 17 (Ringler). Highs for **Solitary Sandpipers** were 10 at Triadelphia on Aug. 6 (H. Holbrook), 12 at Youghiogheny River Reservoir on Aug. 10 (Stasz), and seven at Terrapin on Aug. 25 (Stasz); late were one at North Branch on Oct. 12 (Churchill, Kiddy), one at Myrtle Grove on Oct. 12 (Fred Burggraf), one near Brookview on Oct. 12 (Stasz), two at Liberty Lake, CL on Oct. 13 (Ringler), one at Pickering Creek on Oct. 13 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer), and one at Hughes Hollow on Oct. 23 (Woodward). Interesting reports of **Willetts** were one eastern at North Beach on Aug. 3 (Stasz), one eastern at Smith Island on Aug. 8 (Stasz, Hafner), two westerns at Hooper Island on Aug. 16 (H. Holbrook), five easterns and seven westerns at Assateague on Aug. 17 (Stasz, H. Holbrook), one western at North Beach on Aug. 24 (Stasz, Boyd), one eastern at Point Lookout on Aug. 25-26 (T. Bell, Kostenko) with one western there on Aug. 27 (Stasz) and several birds there on Aug. 28 (Shaffer), and one at PRNAS on Sept. 14 (Rambo +). Highs for **Spotted Sandpipers** were 33 at Hart-Miller on Aug. 3 (Shaffer) and 11 at Triadelphia on Aug. 4 (Stasz); late birds were one at Roaring Point on Oct. 26 (Brighton), two at PRR on Oct. 27 (Noyes +), one on the Potomac River near Selby Bay on Nov. 2 (Mozurkewich), and one at Hurlock on Nov. 10 (Churchill).

*Upland Sandpipers, Whimbrels, Godwits, Turnstones.* Pitney counted 18 **Upland Sandpipers** at the Salisbury Airport on Aug. 4 and two remained there on Aug. 31 (Hafner +), seven were near Lilypons on Aug. 17 (Sussman +), and one was at PRNAS on Sept. 4 (Rambo +). The only reports of **Whimbrels** were 20 at Assateague on Aug. 17 (Stasz, H. Holbrook) with one there on Aug. 31 (Hafner +) and a single bird seen over the ocean on a pelagic trip on Aug. 18 (Stasz +). An adult **Hudsonian Godwit** was at Chesapeake Farms on Oct. 25 (Ellison, N. Martin) and a **Marbled Godwit** was at Point Lookout on Aug. 25-29 (Cribb +). A **Ruddy Turnstone** was at Hurlock from Aug. 17 through Sept. 1 (Powell +), one was at Nanticoke on Aug. 18 (H. Holbrook, Brighton), and four were at Poplar Island on Sept. 14 (Reese).

*Calidridine Sandpipers.* Reports of **Red Knots** included one at Hart-Miller on Sept. 14 (Scarpulla +) and 50 at Assateague on Oct. 12 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer). High counts of **Sanderlings** were 3,800 at Assateague on Aug. 17 (Stasz, H. Holbrook), 471 at Poplar Island on Sept. 25 (Reese), and 57 at Point Lookout on Nov. 18 (Cribb). Other interesting Sanderlings and late birds were five at Upper Marlboro on Sept. 24 (Stasz), six at Flag Ponds on Nov. 10 (Hubbell), 22 at Hooper Island on Nov. 20 (Armistead), one at Tilghman Island on Nov. 30 (Reese), and 12 at Point Lookout on Nov. 30 (Churchill). Highs for **Semipalmated Sandpipers** were at least 80 at Triadelphia on Aug. 6 (H. & R. Holbrook), 210 at Liberty Lake, CL on Aug. 11 (Ringler, Terry), 100 at Great Oak Pond on Aug. 24 (Ellison), and 101 at Poplar Island on Sept. 14 (Reese); late birds were one at Ridgely on Oct. 18 (Hafner, Baer) and six at Poplar Island on Nov. 15 (Reese). Reports of **Western Sandpipers** included 25 near Millington on Aug. 1 (Hafner), one at Triadelphia on Aug. 9 (Stasz), two at Browns Station on Aug. 13 (Shaffer) and one there on Oct. 3 (Stasz), four at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 17 (Stasz, H. Holbrook), one at Point Lookout on Aug. 25-31 (T. Bell, Kostenko +), five at Pickering Creek on Sept. 3 (Roslund), 16 at Great Oak Pond on Sept. 15 (Stasz), one at Tanyard on Sept. 20 (Stasz), and one at Blackwater on Nov. 2 (Willey). **Least Sandpipers** numbered 80 near Millington on Aug. 1 (Hafner), 101 at Hart-Miller on Aug. 3 (Shaffer), at least 20 at Big Branch, Triadelphia, HO on Aug. 6 (H. Holbrook), 23 at Browns Station on Aug. 28 (Stasz), 40 at Great Oak Pond on Aug. 24 (Ellison), 21 at Point Lookout and 10 at Rodo Beach, SM on Aug. 27 (Stasz), 21 at Youghiogheny River Reservoir on Aug. 31 and 30

at North Branch on Sept. 1 (Churchill), 102 at Liberty Lake, CL on Sept. 21 and two there on Oct. 20 (Ringler), 285 at Poplar Island on Oct. 7 (Reese), and one at Deal Island WMA on Nov. 29 (Brighton, H. Holbrook). **White-rumped Sandpipers** were widespread in small numbers with three at Hart-Miller on Aug. 3 (Shaffer), two at Triadelphia on Aug. 6 with one remaining through the 9th (H. Holbrook +), eight at Great Oak Pond on Aug. 29, one there on Oct. 27 (Ellison), two at Point Lookout on Aug. 29 (Cribb), two at Liberty Lake, CL on Sept. 1-6 (Ringler +), one near Federalsburg on Sept. 2 (Lovelace), six at Central Sod Farms on Sept. 2 (Stasz), one at Pickering Creek on Sept. 3-14 (Roslund +), one at Mason Dixon Farm on Sept. 6 (Stasz, Hafner), one at Jug Bay on Oct. 12 (D. Bystrak), three at Ridgely and one at Easton on Oct. 18 (Hafner, Baer), and one very late bird at Ocean City on Nov. 29 (Brighton, H. Holbrook). Reports of **Baird's Sandpipers** were one at Youghiogheny River Reservoir from Aug. 21 through Sept. 7 (Churchill +), two at Liberty Lake, CL on Aug. 25 (Ringler), one at Little Seneca Lake on Aug. 30 (Czaplak), one flying over Assateague and one near Brookview on Aug. 31 (Hafner +), one at Chesapeake Farms on Sept. 2 (Stasz), two at PRNAS on Sept. 4 (Rambo), one at Mason Dixon Farm on Sept. 6 (Stasz, Hafner), one at Salisbury on Sept. 7 (Dyke), three at North Branch on Sept. 14-16 (Churchill) with one there on Oct. 12 (Churchill, Kiddy), and one at Hart-Miller on Sept. 14 (Scarpulla +). Highs for **Pectoral Sandpipers** were 15 at Hurlock and 18 at Beulah on Aug. 20 (Hafner), 22 at Liberty Lake, CL on Aug. 25 (Ringler), 20 at Chesapeake Farms on Sept. 7 (Ellison), and 13 at Salisbury on Sept. 19 (Stasz); late birds were one at Big Pool on Oct. 27 (Stasz, Hafner), four at Swan Harbor Farm on Nov. 2 (Stasz, Hafner), four at Liberty Lake, CL on Nov. 7 (Ringler), one flying over Kenilworth Park on Nov. 8 (Pisano), and three at Blackwater on Nov. 10 (Stasz). On Nov. 15 Reese found 53 **Purple Sandpipers** at Poplar Island. An early **Dunlin** was at Eagles Nest on Aug. 30-31 (Hafner +) and locally high numbers were 10 at Ridgely on Oct. 18 (Hafner, Baer), 93 there on Nov. 8 (Stasz), 449 at Poplar Island on Oct. 22 (Reese), 22 at Central Sod Farms on Oct. 29 (Poet), 72 near Melitota, KE on Oct. 31 (Ellison), 530 at Blackwater on Nov. 2 (Armistead), 13 at Swan Harbor Farm on Nov. 2 (Stasz, Hafner), eight at Liberty Lake, CL on Nov. 3 (Ringler), 30 flying over Point Lookout on Nov. 11 (Waanders, Kline), 560 in Tar Bay at Hooper Island on Nov. 20 (Armistead), and 31 at Allens Fresh on Nov. 23 (Stasz). Interesting reports of **Stilt Sandpipers** were three at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 17 (Stasz, H. Holbrook), two at Loch Raven on Aug. 22-25 (Jenkins), 55 at Great Oak Pond on Aug. 24 and four there on Oct. 16 (Ellison), one near Federalsburg on Sept. 2 (Lovelace), two at Salisbury on Sept. 3 (Dyke), two at Mason Dixon Farm on Sept. 6 (Stasz, Hafner), one at North Branch on Sept. 15 (Churchill), six at Chesapeake Farms on Sept. 15 (Stasz), three at Horn Point, DO on Sept. 29 (H. Holbrook, Brighton), one at Point Lookout on Sept. 30 (Lisa Lister +), and 12 at Easton on Oct. 18 (Hafner, Baer) with four there on Oct. 27 (Allen +).

*Buff-breasted Sandpipers, Dowitchers.* Reports of **Buff-breasted Sandpipers** were two at Hurlock and one near Hurlock on Aug. 31 with one of the former birds seen through Sept. 6 (Hafner +), one at Rum Pointe Golf Course on Sept. 6 (C. & D. Broderick), one near Federalsburg on Sept. 6 (Lovelace), two at Central Sod Farms on Sept. 9-14 (Roslund +) and three there on the 11th (Shaffer), and two at Hart-Miller on Sept. 14 (Scarpulla +). Interesting **Short-billed Dowitchers** were 51 at Great Oak Pond on Aug. 28 (Ellison), three at Point Lookout from Aug. 30 through Sept. 2 (Cribb +), one at Mason Dixon Farm on Aug. 31 (Weesner), two near Federalsburg on Sept. 2 (Lovelace), four at Chesapeake Farms and one at Central Sod Farms on Sept. 2 (Stasz), one at Piney Run on Sept. 21 (Ringler), four at Poplar Island on Sept. 25 (Reese), and three at Deal Island WMA on Sept. 29 (H. Holbrook, Brighton). Reports of **Long-billed Dowitchers** were 15 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 17 (Stasz, H. Holbrook), 1 juvenile near Melitota, KE on Aug. 19 (Ellison), one at North Beach on Aug. 24

(Stasz, Boyd) and on Sept. 24 (Stasz), one at Chesapeake Farms on Sept. 2-15 (Stasz), one at Salisbury on Sept. 3 (Dyke), eight at Blackwater on Sept. 18 (Stasz), three at Great Oak Pond on Oct. 4, and one remaining on the 11th (Ellison), one at Easton and five at Pickering Creek on Oct. 18 (Hafner, Baer), and one at Tanyard on Nov. 8 (Stasz +).

*Snipe, Woodcock, Phalaropes.* Early **Common Snipe** were one at Easton on Aug. 17 (Reese +), one at Central Sod Farms on Sept. 3 (Reese, Allen), and one at Point Lookout on Sept. 12 (Craig). Stasz noted two **American Woodcocks** displaying at Porter's Cemetery, AL on the unusual date of Oct. 5. Single **Wilson's Phalaropes** were found at Triadelphia, MO on Aug. 8 (Sussman), Mason Dixon Farm on Aug. 9 (Weesner), Easton on Aug. 17 (Reese +), Hurlock on Aug. 17-20 (Powell +), Poplar Island on Sept. 25 (Reese), Great Oak Pond on Oct. 4 (Ellison), and Pickering Creek on Oct. 14-15 (Roslund). Reports of **Red-necked Phalaropes** were three on an Aug. 18 pelagic trip (Stasz +), one at Dameron on Aug. 26 (Craig), two at Poplar Island on Sept. 14 and one there on Oct. 7 (Reese), one at Ridgely on Sept. 20 (Stasz) and the next day (Poet), and one at Pickering Creek on Oct. 12 (Powell).

*Jaegers.* One **Parasitic Jaeger** was seen off Assateague on Oct. 12 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer). On a Nov. 16 pelagic trip three **Pomarine Jaegers** and two Parasitic Jaegers were seen (Gustafson, Guris +).

*Dark-headed Gulls.* Concentrations of **Laughing Gulls** were 800 at Tanyard on Sept. 28 (Stasz), 2,000 at Easton on Oct. 12 (Roslund +), 800 near Brookview on Oct. 12 (Stasz), 3,000 at Anacostia Park on Nov. 1 (Pisano), 2,500 at Upper Marlboro on Nov. 15 (Shaffer), and 500 at Point Lookout on Nov. 18 (Cribb); late birds were one at Eastern Neck on Nov. 25 (Ellison), 11 at Anacostia Park on Nov. 28 (Bowen), seven at Cambridge on Nov. 30 (Armistead), and two at Sandy Point SP on Nov. 30 (Shaffer). Single immature **Franklin's Gulls** were seen at Easton on Oct. 6 (Stasz), Havre de Grace on Oct. 6 (Hafner), and Sandy Point SP on Nov. 8 (Stasz). An adult **Little Gull** was at Lapidum on Nov. 2 (Hafner, Stasz) and two were at Point Lookout on Nov. 18 (Cribb). An adult **Black-headed Gull** was at Hurlock from Sept. 16 through Oct. 22 (Mike Walsh +) and possibly the same bird was five miles away near Brookview on Sept. 28-29 (H. Holbrook, Brighton). An immature **Bonaparte's Gull** at Hurlock from Aug. 31 through Oct. 20 (Hafner +) was unexpected. Early fall arrivals of Bonaparte's Gulls were eight in Baltimore on Oct. 13 (Blom), one at Tolchester Beach, KE on Oct. 19 (Ellison, N. Martin), two at Havre de Grace on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd), and one at Rocky Gap on Oct. 27 (Churchill); higher numbers were 35 at Hurlock on Nov. 2 (Armistead), 12 at Little Falls on Nov. 5 (Czaplak), 150 at Conowingo Dam on Nov. 6 (Starling), 127 at Tolchester Beach, KE on Nov. 13 (Ellison), 500 at Point Lookout on Nov. 18 (Cribb), 93 at Breeze Point Farm WWTP and 15 at Cobb Island on Nov. 23 (Stasz), 11 at Deal Island WMA on Nov. 25 (C. & D. Broderick), and 15 at Broadford Lake on Nov. 26 (Pope).

*White-headed Gulls.* On Oct. 29 Reese estimated 1,000 **Ring-billed Gulls** at Church Hill, QA. Concentrations of Herring Gulls were 671 at Poplar Island on Sept. 14 (Reese), 1,900 off Rigby's Folly on Nov. 3 (Armistead), 2,000 at Easton on Nov. 8 (Churchill), and 1,700 at the Worcester Co. Central Landfill on Nov. 9 (Churchill). Rare in Garrett Co., two **Herring Gulls** were at Broadford Lake on Oct. 30 (Pope). A first-winter **Thayer's Gull** was seen on the Nov. 16 pelagic trip (Gustafson, Guris +) and another first-winter bird was at Beulah on Nov. 30 (Brighton, H. Holbrook). Single first-winter **Iceland Gulls** were at Salisbury on Nov. 29 (Hafner, Baer) and Beulah on Nov. 30 (Brighton, H. Holbrook). As expected there were numerous reports of **Lesser Black-backed Gulls**. Notably early were an adult at Selby Bay on Aug. 28 (Stasz), three first-summer birds at the Worcester Co. Central Landfill

on Aug. 30 (Hafner) with a fourth-summer bird there the next day (Stasz), six at Hart-Miller on Sept. 14 (Scarpulla +), four adults at Assateague on Sept. 25 (H. & R. Holbrook), and a juvenile at Havre de Grace on Oct. 6 (Hafner). Other multiple-bird reports were two Lessers at Salisbury on Nov. 29 (Hafner, Baer) and four at Beulah on Nov. 30 (Brighton, H. Holbrook). High counts of **Great Black-backed Gulls** were 1,518 at Poplar Island on Sept. 14 (Reese), 2,600 at Hart-Miller on Sept. 14 (Scarpulla +), 200 at Point Lookout on Nov. 18 (Cribb), and 175 at Hooper Island on Nov. 20 (Armistead). The **Kelp Gull** was seen again at Sandgates, SM throughout the season (Kostenko +). Five **Black-legged Kittiwakes** were seen on the Nov. 16 pelagic trip (Gustafson, Guris +).

*Terns, Skimmer.* The only **Gull-billed Tern** of the season was at Eagle's Nest on Aug. 27 (Churchill). Among the reports of **Caspian Terns** were 15 at Loch Raven on Aug. 25 (Jenkins, Terry), two at Tanyard from Aug. 25 through Sept. 28 (Stasz), 890 at Hart-Miller on Sept. 14 (Scarpulla +), 73 at Chestertown on Sept. 15 (Stasz), 85 at Assateague on Oct. 12 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer), two at the Tidal Basin on Oct. 24 (Hubbell), two at Ocean City on Nov. 2 (F. & N. Saunders), and 13 at Havre de Grace on Nov. 2 (Stasz, Hafner). Notable reports of **Royal Terns** were 330 at Assateague on Aug. 17 (Stasz, H. Holbrook), 11 at Hart-Miller on Sept. 14 (Scarpulla +), one on the Potomac River, PG seen from Jones Point, VA on Sept. 16 (Cooper), 36 at Poplar Island on Sept. 25 and six there on Nov. 15 (Reese), 20 at Eastern Neck on Oct. 13 (Ellison, N. Martin, Mann) with one there on Nov. 10 (Schwarz), two at Jug Bay on Oct. 13 (D. Bystrak), three at Trueman Point, PG on Oct. 19 (Mozurkewich, Fallon), three at Sandy Point SP on Nov. 11 (Schwarz), one at Prospect Bay, QA on Nov. 15 (Ellison +), and one flying over Point Lookout on Dec. 4 (Cribb). A **Sandwich Tern** was at Point Lookout on Aug. 8 (Stasz, Hafner) and two were at Ocean City on Aug. 17-24 (F. & N. Saunders +). At Assateague 30 Sandwich Terns were seen on Aug. 17 (Stasz, H. Holbrook), one of which remained on Sept. 25 (H. & R. Holbrook). Late **Common Terns** were 32 at Poplar Island on Sept. 14 (Reese), 35 at Point Lookout and three at Chesapeake Beach, CT on Oct. 9 (Stasz), nine at Eastern Neck on Oct. 13 (Ellison), and seven at Cornfield Harbor on Oct. 22 (Cribb). Upland reports of **Forster's Terns** were 11 at Liberty Lake on Sept. 1 (Ringler), two at Brighton Dam on Sept. 14-16 (Holdridge +), four at Sycamore Landing on Sept. 15 (Woodward), and one at APL on Oct. 30-31 (Kevin Heffernan +). Higher numbers of Forster's Terns were 97 at Selby Bay on Aug. 27 (Stasz), 300 at Havre de Grace on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd), 200 at Perry Point on Oct. 22 (Starling), and 110 at Tilghman Island on Nov. 9 (Reese); late birds were six at Eastern Neck on Nov. 25 (Ellison), two at Blackwater on Nov. 30 (Armistead), five at Point Lookout on Nov. 30 (Churchill), and one at Rigby's Folly on Dec. 1 (Armistead). The last **Least Terns** reported were two at Lakeside on Aug. 8 (Eastman) and one at Rigby's Folly on Aug. 24 (Armistead). Reports of **Black Terns** included two at Violettes Lock from Aug. 15 through Sept. 2 (Czaplak +), two at Youghiogheny River Reservoir on Aug. 17 (*vide* Churchill), five at Assateague on Aug. 17 (Stasz, H. Holbrook), four on the Potomac River in DC from Aug. 17 through Sept. 16 (Czaplak +) and at least two there on Sept. 22 (Cooper), one at PRNAS on Aug. 22 (Craig), one at Loch Raven on Aug. 22-24 (Jenkins +), one at North Beach on Aug. 28 (Stasz), eight at Upper Marlboro on Aug. 29 (Shaffer), and one at Great Oak Pond on Aug. 29 (Ellison). A late **Black Skimmer** was at Ocean City on Nov. 8 (Churchill).

*Dove, Cuckoos, Owls.* A **Eurasian Collared-Dove** was flying over Assateague on Oct. 13 (Stasz +). Single **Black-billed Cuckoos** were at Millington WMA on Sept. 2 (Stasz), Dameron on Sept. 4 (Craig), Sassafras River NRMA on Sept. 20 (Ellison), and Eden Mill on Sept. 21 (Stasz, Boyd). A late **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** was at Oxon Hill Farm, PG on Oct. 17 (Mozurkewich). On Sept. 18 Stasz found a **Barn Owl** at Whitehaven, WI. Reports of **Short-**



**eared Owls** were one at Turkey Point on Oct. 27 (Pat Valdata +), one in DC off National Airport on Nov. 16 (Hilton, Pisano), and one at Jug Bay on Nov. 20 (D. Bystrak). The first **Northern Saw-whet Owl** of the season was banded at Lambs Knoll on Oct. 15, and on Oct. 21 one was trapped that had been banded the previous night in Pennsylvania (Huy). The Adkins Arboretum station banded its first Saw-whet on Oct. 21 (Lori Byrne).

*Caprimulgids.* Early migrant **Common Nighthawks** were one at Pickell Hill on Aug. 9 (Stasz) and at least one at Wilde Lake on Aug. 12 (Zeichner); the high for the season was a meager 36 at Bethesda on Sept. 3 (Bowen). Among the numerous late nighthawks were two at Chesapeake Landing on Oct. 1 (Ellison), one at Easton on Oct. 3 (Allen), two at Darnestown on Oct. 3 (Simonson), and one at Jug Bay on Nov. 11 (D. Bystrak). A **Chuck-will's-widow** was flushed at Rigby's Folly on Sept. 14 (Armistead). **Whip-poor-wills** often call in the fall; this year's were one at Finzel on Sept. 7 (Stasz, Hafner, Churchill), two at Taylors Island on Sept. 18 (Stasz), two near Dividing Creek, WO on Sept. 19 (Stasz), one near Elliott Island on Sept. 21 (Armistead), and one at Waldorf on Sept. 23 (Jett).

*Swifts, Hummingbirds, Woodpeckers.* High counts of **Chimney Swifts** were 300 at Cumberland on Aug. 10 (Stasz), at least 1,500 at Perry Point on Sept. 2 (Starling), 1,500 at Ridge on Sept. 4 (Cribb), and 6,221 at Hampden, BC on Sept. 14 (Carol Schreter +); late birds were three at Swan Harbor Farm on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd), one at Chesapeake Landing on Oct. 22 (Ellison), 40 at Little Falls on Nov. 4, and eight remaining there the next day (Czaplak). High counts of **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were 15 at Hashawha EEC, CL on Sept. 7 (Ringler) and 11 at Chesapeake Landing on Sept. 12 (Ellison); late birds were a female at the Smithsonian in DC on Oct. 8 (many observers), one at Mount Pleasant on Oct. 19 (Ott, Holdridge +), and one at Ashton through Oct. 20 (Sussman). An adult male **Rufous Hummingbird** was at Rockville, MO on Oct. 10-17 (Douglas & Elsa McCallum +) and an immature female was at Amberley, AA on Nov. 23-24 and banded by Gustafson; not specifically identified was an immature male at Bethesda on Nov. 6-11 (Greg Gough). Early migrant **Red-headed Woodpeckers** included one at Cromwell Valley Park on Sept. 7 (E. & N. Kirshbaum +), one at Centennial on Sept. 11 (Ott), and one at Rock Creek Park on Sept. 13 (Hubbell); a high of seven was at Hughes Hollow on Oct. 23 (Woodward). Migrant woodpeckers at Tilghman Island included 12 **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** on Oct. 15 (Reese, Allen), six **Hairy Woodpeckers** on Sept. 29 (Reese), and 50 **Northern Flickers** on Sept. 29 (Reese). Other migrant flickers were 20 at Rock Creek Park on Oct. 6 (Mackiernan, Cooper) and 19 at Hughes Hollow on Oct. 23 (Woodward).

*Flycatchers.* Reports of **Olive-sided Flycatchers** were one at Rock Creek Park on Aug. 18 and Aug. 29-31 (Hubbell +), one at Tilghman Island on Aug. 24 (Ellison), one at Ellicott City on Aug. 27 (Ott), two at Meadowside Nature Center, MO on Aug. 31 (Sussman), one at Eastern Neck from Aug. 31 through Sept. 8 (Floyd Parks, Ringler +), one at Millington WMA on Sept. 2 (Stasz), one at Dameron on Sept. 5 (Craig), one at Finzel on Sept. 7 (Stasz, Hafner, Churchill), one in Howard Co. on Sept. 21 (Sunell, Wright), and one at Hughes Hollow on Sept. 21 (Woodward). Late **Eastern Wood-Pewees** were one at JEDS on Oct. 6 (Bourque), one at Rock Creek Park on Oct. 6 (Mackiernan, Cooper), and two at Fort McHenry on Oct. 13 (Peters +). The earliest **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** were one at Funkstown on Aug. 9 (Stasz), one at Rock Creek Park on Aug. 18 (Pisano), and one at Dameron on Aug. 20 (Craig), and the latest were one at Catoctin on Sept. 29 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer) and one seen singing at Easton on Oct. 12 (W. Bell). A very late **Acadian Flycatcher** was calling at Fort McHenry on Oct. 13 (Peters +). An **Alder Flycatcher** was banded at Laurel on Aug. 24 (Robbins). Single **Willow Flycatchers** at Hughes Hollow on Aug. 29 (Bowen) and Perry Point on Sept.

2 (Starling) were not described as calling. An early migrant “Trail’s” Flycatcher was at Point Lookout on Aug. 8 (Stasz, Hafner); late birds were one at Pickering Creek on Sept. 22 (Hafner, Baer, Carney) and one at Rock Creek Park on Sept. 24 (Mackiernan, Cooper). An early **Least Flycatcher** was at Black Hill RP on Aug. 10 (Tom Dunne) and the latest was at Hughes Hollow on Oct. 1 (Woodward). Highs for **Eastern Phoebes** were 20 at Pickell Hill on Sept. 7 (Stasz, Hafner), 30 at Meadowbrook on Oct. 3 (H. Holbrook), and 14 at Point Lookout on Oct. 9 (Stasz); late birds were one at Perry Point on Nov. 7 (Starling), one at Lake Roland on Nov. 24 (Cathy Carroll), and one at North Branch on Nov. 28 (Churchill). Late **Great Crested Flycatchers** were one at Rock Creek Park on Sept. 24 (Mackiernan, Cooper) and one at Tilghman Island on Sept. 25 (Roslund). The only **Western Kingbird** of the season was at North Tract PRR on Sept. 30 (Peruzzi, Ken Board). Concentrations of migrating **Eastern Kingbirds** were 30 at Tilghman Island on Aug. 4 (Reese), 12 at Point Lookout on Aug. 8 (Stasz, Hafner), 11 at North Branch on Aug. 11 (Stasz), 12 at Terrapin on Aug. 20 (Hafner), 24 at Blackwater on Aug. 24 (Armistead), and 14 at Great Oak Pond on Aug. 28 (Ellison); a late bird was near Greensboro on Sept. 28 (Stasz). An astounding find was a **Gray Kingbird** at Jug Bay on Sept. 25 (D. Bystrak +).

*Shrike, Vireos.* The only **Loggerhead Shrike** of the season was at Antietam, WA on Sept. 21 (Russ Martz +). The last **White-eyed Vireo** of the season was at Huntingtown NRMA, CT on Oct. 7 (Stasz). Late **Yellow-throated Vireos** were numerous with one at Taylors Island on Sept. 18 (Stasz), one at Washington Monument SP on Sept. 19 (Weesner, Gearhart), three at Eden Mill on Sept. 21 (Stasz, Boyd), four at McKeldin on Sept. 21 (Hoffman), one at Town Hill on Sept. 21 (Churchill), one at Rock Creek Park on Sept. 24 (Mackiernan, Cooper), and one at West Ocean City on Sept. 28 (F. & N. Saunders). Late **Blue-headed Vireos** were one at Turkey Point on Oct. 20 (McCandless +), one at Hughes Hollow on Oct. 23 (Woodward), and one at Wilde Lake on Nov. 7 (Ott +). Migrant **Warbling Vireos** included one at Point Lookout on Sept. 2 (Craig, Bishop, Cribb), one at Hurlock and one at Taylors Island on Sept. 18 (Stasz), one at Sassafra River NRMA on Sept. 20 (Ellison), and one at Lake Elkhorn on Sept. 23 (Maloney +). The first **Philadelphia Vireo** of the season was at Lake Elkhorn on Sept. 10 (Maloney) and the latest was one at Darnestown on Oct. 13 (Simonson) with other interesting reports of two at Rock Creek Park on Sept. 12 (Mackiernan, Cooper), one at Eden Mill on Sept. 14 (Cheicante), one at Washington Monument SP on Sept. 19 (Weesner, Gearhart), two at McKeldin and three at Morgan Run on Sept. 21 (Hoffman), two at Chesapeake Landing on Sept. 24 (Ellison), one at Jefferson Patterson Park on Sept. 25 (T. Bell), and two near Greenfield Mills, FR on Sept. 29 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer). The high for **Red-eyed Vireos** was 26 at McKeldin on Sept. 21 (Hoffman) and a late bird was at Oxon Hill Farm, PG on Oct. 18 (Mozurkewich).

*Corvids, Larks.* Tallies of migrant **Blue Jays** were 650 at Tilghman Island on Sept. 29 (Reese), 230 at Eastern Neck on Oct. 13 (Ellison +), and 225 at Wades Point on Oct. 13 (Reese, Roslund). On Sept. 7 Ellison found 65 **Fish Crows** at Eastern Neck. Stasz, Hafner, and Baer found four **Common Ravens** at Catoctin on Sept. 29. Highs for **Horned Larks** were 100 near New Windsor on Nov. 24 (Ringler, Ellis) and 150 at Redhouse, GA on Nov. 28 (Gary Felton).

*Swallows.* Highs for **Purple Martins** were 100 near Ironshire, WO on Aug. 27 (Churchill), 280 at Great Oak Pond on Aug. 29 (Ellison), and 60 at Central Sod Farms on Aug. 29 (Roslund); late were two at Sassafra River NRMA on Sept. 21 (Crabtree). Highs for **Tree Swallows** were 400 at Eastern Neck on Oct. 13 (Ellison, N. Martin, Mann), 400 at

Berlin on Nov. 9 (Churchill), and 500 at Point Lookout and Scotland on Nov. 12 (Cribb); late birds were four at Centennial on Nov. 2 (Harry Fink), four at Beltsville on Nov. 3 (Mozurkewich), 25 at Horsehead on Nov. 3 (Ellison, N. Martin), 20 at Little Falls and eight at Seneca on Nov. 5 (Czaplak), eight at Fruitland, WI on Nov. 10 (Stasz), one at Pinto on Nov. 24 (Churchill), and 20 at Point Lookout on Nov. 27 (Cribb). Highs for **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** were 60 at Sassafras River NRMA on Sept. 10 (Ellison) and 181 at Hughes Hollow on Sept. 15 (Woodward); late birds were six at Chesapeake Landing on Oct. 22 (Ellison), three at Anacostia Park on Nov. 1 (Pisano), one at Centennial on Nov. 3 (Ott, Cullison), three at Little Falls on Nov. 5 (Czaplak), two at Piney Run on Nov. 17 (Ringler), one at the National Harbor, PG on Nov. 20 (fide Ringler), and one at Jug Bay on Nov. 24 (Ashley Sutton). Highs for **Bank Swallows** were 35 at Perry Point on Aug. 28 (Starling) and 100 at Seneca on Aug. 29 (Bowen); late birds were two at Coveys Landing, TA/CN and one at Ridgely on Sept. 20 (Stasz) and an extraordinarily late bird at Little Falls on Nov. 4 (Czaplak). Migrant **Cliff Swallows** included two at Hart-Miller on Aug. 3 (Shaffer), one at Upper Marlboro on Aug. 6 (Shaffer), one at Big Pool on Aug. 9 (fide Ringler), one at Point Lookout on Aug. 30 (Powell), one at Tilghman Island on Sept. 1 (W. Bell), one at Great Oak Pond on Sept. 7 (Ellison), two at Easton on Sept. 14 (Stasz), one at Washington Monument SP on Sept. 16 (Weesner), one at Caldwell Corners, KE on Sept. 28 (Stasz), and one at North Branch on Oct. 26 (Stasz +). Sightings of **Cave Swallows** were one at Point Lookout on Nov. 19 through Dec. 1 (Craig +) and one nearby at Dameron on Nov. 29 (Sigrid Stiles). The high for **Barn Swallows** was 425 at Blackwater on Aug. 24 (Armistead); single late birds were at Hurlock on Oct. 22 (Shaffer), Little Falls on Nov. 4 (Czaplak), and Point Lookout on Nov. 26 (H. Holbrook, Cribb, Craig).

*Nuthatches, Creepers, Wrens.* **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were scarce this fall. A high of 18 **Brown-headed Nuthatches** was at Tilghman Island on Aug. 4-11 (Reese) and three were near the species' northern limit at Horsehead on Nov. 24 (Stasz). Two **Brown Creepers** at Taylors Island on Sept. 18 (Stasz) were very early; 15 were at Tilghman Island on Oct. 9 (Allen). Garrett Co. sightings of **Carolina Wrens** were five at Youghiogheny River Reservoir on Aug. 10 (Stasz), two at Finzel on Sept. 7 (Stasz, Hafner, Churchill) and one near there on Oct. 5 (Stasz), one at Mountain Lake Park, GA from Oct. 6 through Nov. 28 (Pope), and one at Jennings Randolph Lake on Nov. 17 (Stasz). The high for **House Wrens** was 12 at Rock Creek Park on Sept. 18 (Cooper); late were one at Turkey Point on Oct. 20 (Mann +) and one near Berlin on Nov. 29 (Hafner, Baer). Early **Winter Wrens** were one at Catoctin on Sept. 29 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer) and one at Chesapeake Landing on Sept. 30 (Ellison). **Sedge Wrens** this fall were one at Elliott Island on Sept. 1-8 (Starling, Brighton), one at Easton on Oct. 6 (Stasz), one at Hughes Hollow on Oct. 13 (Czaplak, Todd), one at Cromwell Valley Park on Oct. 14 (Lev), one at Cabin Creek, QA on Nov. 11 (Stasz), and four at Truitts Landing on Nov. 29 (Hafner +). Single **Marsh Wrens** that were probably migrants were at Upper Marlboro on Sept. 27 (Shaffer), Lilypons from Sept. 29 through Oct. 25 (Stasz +), Patapsco Valley SP near Elkridge on Sept. 30 (Maloney), UMCF on Oct. 2-23 (Ott), Plum Tree Path, HO on Oct. 4 (Ott, Holdridge), Western RP on Oct. 12 (Ott +), Fort McHenry on Oct. 13 (Peters +), and Kenilworth Park on Oct. 14 (Pisano).

*Kinglets, Gnatcatchers.* A **Golden-crowned Kinglet** at Wilde Lake on Sept. 6 (Zeichner) was record early; highs were 23 at Perry Point on Oct. 9 (Starling), 22 at Hughes Hollow on Oct. 23 (Woodward), and 40 at Easton on Oct. 27 (Reese, Allen). Early **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** were two at Hughes Hollow on Sept. 4 (Jim Green +), one at Meekins Neck, DO on Sept. 18 (Stasz), one at Rock Creek Park on Sept. 18 (Cooper), and one near Marumsc, SO on Sept. 19 (Stasz); high counts were 30 at Tilghman Island on Oct. 15 and Nov. 2 (Reese),

43 at Chesapeake Landing on Oct. 22 (Ellison), and 34 at Hughes Hollow on Oct. 23 (Woodward). Local high counts of migrant **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** were 18 at Tilghman Island on Aug. 4 (Reese) and 10 at Point Lookout on Sept. 2 (Craig, Bishop, Cribb); one late bird was at Tilghman Island on Oct. 12 (Reese +).

*Thrushes.* Highs for **Eastern Bluebirds** were 80 flying over Layhill on Oct. 21 (Mackiernan, Cooper) and hundreds at Turkey Point on Oct. 28 (Starling +). Stasz noted an early migrant **Veery** on Aug. 17 at Assateague where at least 30 were heard flying over before dawn on Aug. 31 (Hafner +). Other notable Veeries were five at Blackwater on Sept. 8 (Brighton), 10 heard flying over before dawn on Sept. 29 at Sugarloaf (Stasz, Hafner, Baer), and one at Frostburg on Sept. 29 (Churchill). The first **Gray-cheeked Thrushes** of the fall were one banded at Laurel on Sept. 13 (Robbins), one at MPEA on Sept. 19 (H. Holbrook) and one at Morgan Run on Sept. 21 (Hoffman) followed by three heard at Frostburg on Sept. 22 (Churchill), 60 heard before dawn on Sept. 29 at Sugarloaf (Stasz, Hafner, Baer), two at Chesapeake Landing on Oct. 7 (Ellison), and three heard before dawn on Oct. 9 at Cornfield Harbor (Stasz). An early **Swainson's Thrush** was at Point Lookout on Sept. 2 (Craig, Cribb, Bishop) and highs were 49 heard at night over Frostburg on Sept. 22 (Churchill) and 40 heard before dawn on Sept. 29 at Sugarloaf (Stasz, Hafner, Baer); one late bird was at Pickering Creek on Oct. 18 (Bowen) and one died after colliding with a window in Anne Arundel Co. on Nov. 8 (Schwarz). A very early **Hermit Thrush** was near Easton on Sept. 9 (Allen) and other early migrants were one heard at Frostburg on Sept. 22 (Churchill), two at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 6 (Stasz), one at Ferry Landing, CT on Oct. 8 (Stasz), and one at Cornfield Harbor on Oct. 9 (Stasz). About 15 **Wood Thrushes** were heard before dawn on Sept. 29 at Sugarloaf (Stasz, Hafner, Baer) and a late bird was at Swan Harbor Farm on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd). High counts of **American Robins** were 185 at Rigby's Folly on Aug. 24 (Armistead), 26,370 leaving the Easton roost at dawn on Oct. 23 (Reese, Allen), 2,500 at Turkey Point on Oct. 28 (Starling), 1,180 migrating at Hooper Island on Nov. 3 (Armistead), 1,000 at Wye Island on Nov. 3 (Reese, Poet), 365 at Chesapeake Landing on Nov. 4 (Ellison), and several thousand at Terrapin on Nov. 8 (Mackiernan, Cooper).

*Mimids, Starlings, Pipits, Waxwings.* High counts of **Gray Catbirds** were 48 at Morgan Run on Sept. 21 (Hoffman), 40 at Tilghman Island on Sept. 29 (Reese), and 25 at Fort McHenry on Oct. 13 (Peters +); single late birds were at Baltimore on Nov. 25 (E. Kirschbaum), northwest DC on Nov. 27 (Marko), and Point Lookout on Nov. 30 (Arnold, Churchill). **Northern Mockingbirds** in Garrett Co. were two at Pickell Hill from Aug. 10 through Sept. 7 (Stasz, Hafner) and one at Jennings Randolph Lake on Nov. 17 (Stasz); elsewhere 25 at Tilghman Island on Sept. 29 (Reese) may have included some migrants. Highs for **Brown Thrashers** were 16 at Rockburn on Sept. 15 (Ott +), 12 at Rock Creek Park on Sept. 18 (Cooper), and 14 at Morgan Run on Sept. 21 (Hoffman); late birds were one at Susquehanna SP on Nov. 15 (Cheicante) and one at Upper Marlboro on Nov. 19 (Shaffer). Locally high counts of **European Starlings** were 600 at Funkstown on Sept. 6 (Stasz, Hafner), 600 at Blackwater on Oct. 20 (Reese, Stone), 1,000 at Perryman on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd), 900 at Centreville on Oct. 29 (Reese), 10,000 at Mears Farm on Nov. 24 (Arnold), and 750 at Tilghman Island on Nov. 24 (Reese). An early **American Pipit** was at UMCF on Sept. 18 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem); highs were 23 at Youghiogheny River Reservoir on Oct. 5 (Stasz), 150 at Worton on Oct. 20 (Ellison, N. Martin), 27 at Kenilworth Park on Nov. 1 (Pisano), 50 at Tilghman Island on Nov. 2 (Reese), and 80 at UMCF on Nov. 2 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem). Early flocks of **Cedar Waxwings** were 35 at Tilghman Island on Aug. 4 (Reese), 40 at Finzel on Aug. 9 (Stasz), and 70 at Funkstown on Sept. 15 (Churchill); later flocks were 300 at Town Hill on Oct. 27 (Stasz,

Hafner), 100 at Centennial on Nov. 3 (Cullison +), 100 at Wye Island on Nov. 3 (Reese, Poet), and 150 at Tilghman Island on Nov. 9 (Reese).

*Vermivora* Warblers, *Parulas*. Interesting reports of **Blue-winged Warblers** were two at Dameron on Aug. 21 (Craig), one at Pleasant Valley on Sept. 7 (Stasz, Hafner), and one at American Chestnut Land Trust on Sept. 19 (Hamilton). The only **Golden-winged Warbler** of the season was a male at McKeldin on Sept. 21 (Hoffman). A **Brewster's Warbler** hybrid was at Blackwalnut Point on Aug. 25 (Ellison). The first **Tennessee Warbler** of the season was at Chesapeake Farms on Sept. 2 (Stasz) followed by highs of nine at Finzel on Sept. 7 (Stasz, Hafner, Churchill), seven at McKeldin on Sept. 21 (Hoffman), and eight at Big Branch, HA on Sept. 22 (Stasz), and the last of the season, at Chesapeake Landing on Oct. 22 (Ellison). Single **Orange-crowned Warblers** were at Lake Roland on Sept. 21 (Lev), Ashton on Sept. 22–23 (Sussman +), Catoctin on Sept. 29 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer), Kenilworth Park on Oct. 14 (Pisano), Turkey Point on Oct. 20 (McCandless +), PRNAS on Nov. 19 (Rambo), and Terrapin on Nov. 24 (Ellison). An early **Nashville Warbler** was at Deal Island WMA on Sept. 2 (C. & D. Broderick) and late birds were one at Centreville on Oct. 18 (Baer), one at Lake Elkhorn on Oct. 26 (Wilkinson), and one at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Nov. 24 (Bowen). A late **Northern Parula** was at Milltown Landing on Oct. 19 (Mozurkewich +) and one was at Roaring Point on Oct. 22 (C. & D. Broderick).

*Dendroica* Warblers. Six migrant **Yellow Warblers** were at Point Lookout and another six at Smith Island on Aug. 8 (Stasz, Hafner); late were one at Central Sod Farms on Sept. 22 (Hafner, Baer, Carney) and one at Easton on Oct. 6 (Stasz). The first **Chestnut-sided Warbler** of the season was at Layhill on Aug. 21 (Sussman), highs were 10 at Turkey Point on Sept. 1 (McCandless, Mann), 15 at Rock Creek Park on Sept. 12 (Mackiernan, Cooper +), and 12 at McKeldin on Sept. 21 (Hoffman), and a late bird was at Tilghman Island on Oct. 8 (Allen). Highs for **Magnolia Warblers** were 10 at Dameron and 10 at Point Lookout on Sept. 12 (Craig), 24 at Ellicott City on Sept. 12 (Ott), 15 at Rock Creek Park on Sept. 12 and Sept. 24 (Mackiernan, Cooper +), 18 at McKeldin and eight at Morgan Run on Sept. 21 (Hoffman), 20 at Turkey Point on Sept. 24 (J. Martin), and 30 at MPEA on Sept. 27 (H. Holbrook); a late bird was at Lake Kittamaquindi on Oct. 26 (Marcus James). Reports of **Cape May Warblers** included two at Dameron on Sept. 4 (Craig), 10 at Wades Point on Oct. 13 (Reese, Roslund), one at Turkey Point on Oct. 26 (Ellison), and one at the Choptank River Bridge, TA on Oct. 28 (Bob & Toni Hartman). Highs for **Black-throated Blue Warblers** were 15 at MPEA on Sept. 7 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem), 15 at Turkey Point on Sept. 24 (J. Martin), and 14 at Tilghman Island on Sept. 29 (Reese); a late male was at Lilypons on Nov. 2 (Czaplak). Exceptionally early migrant **Yellow-rumped Warblers** were one at Mt. Nebo WMA on Aug. 31 (Pope) and one at Blackwater on Sept. 8 (Brighton); a high of 80 was at Lake Elkhorn on Oct. 18 (Coskren). Two **Black-throated Green Warblers** at Dameron on Aug. 19 (Craig) were very early; highs were 10 at Finzel on Sept. 7 (Stasz, Hafner, Churchill), 11 at Chesapeake Landing on Sept. 12 (Ellison), and 12 at Rock Creek Park on Sept. 24 (Mackiernan, Cooper) and late birds were one at Elliott Island on Oct. 12 (Stasz) and one at Wades Point on Oct. 13 (Reese, Roslund). A **Blackburnian Warbler** at JEDS on Oct. 6 (Bourque) was late and one at Lake Elkhorn on Oct. 31 (Neri, Coskren) was extraordinarily so. The last **Yellow-throated Warblers** of the year were one at Dameron on Aug. 23 (Craig), one at Lowes Wharf on Sept. 14 (Stasz), and one at North Branch on Sept. 28 (Churchill). High numbers of **Pine Warblers** were 20 at Taylors Island on Sept. 18 and 16 near Marumsc, SO on Sept. 19 (Stasz) and 10 at Eastern Neck on Sept. 29 (Ellison, N. Martin); other reports included one at Harford Glen on Oct. 6 (Hafner), one at Horsehead on Nov. 3 (Ellison, N. Martin), 1 at a Parsonsburg feeder

from Nov. 1 through the end of the period (Pitney), one at Dameron on Nov. 17 (Craig), and five at Oak Grove about Nov. 25 (Lovelace). Two **Prairie Warblers** at Rigby's Folly on Aug. 10 (Armistead) were early migrants and a late bird was at JEDS on Oct. 6 (Bourque). The high for **Blackpoll Warblers** was 14 at Green Ridge, AL on Sept. 22 (Churchill); late birds were one at Swan Harbor Farm on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd) and one banded at Jug Bay on Nov. 14 (D. Bystrak).

*Palm Warblers.* This fall was one of the best ever for **Palm Warblers** in Maryland and many of the reports added much to our knowledge of the subspecies (yellow and western) being seen. Migration started with one yellow at Assateague on Aug. 31 (Hafner +) and one at Point Lookout on Sept. 2 (Craig, Bishop, Cribb). These were followed by two westerns at Sassafras River NRMA on Sept. 15 (Ellison, N. Martin), five at Pinto Marsh on Sept. 29 (Churchill), six at Hughes Hollow on Sept. 29 (Simonson), and reaching a peak of 100 at Tilghman Island on Sept. 29 (Reese). Continuing, there were two westerns at Indian Creek WMA on Oct. 4 (Stasz), one yellow and 14 westerns at Swan Harbor Farm on Oct. 6 (Hafner), 16 yellows and two westerns at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 6 (Stasz), three yellows at Point Lookout on Oct. 9 (Stasz), at least 15 at Kenilworth Park on Oct. 19 (Hubbell, Pisano), dozens at Aquasco Farm, PG on Oct. 19 (Mozurkewich +), three yellows at Big Branch, HA on Oct. 19 (Stasz, Boyd), two yellows and one western near Perryman and two yellows at Swan Harbor Farm on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd), 10 at Trout Run on Oct. 20 (Pope), 12 at Blackwater on Oct. 20 (Reese, Stone), four yellows at Liberty Watershed, CL on Oct. 22 (Ringler), six yellows and eight westerns at Perry Point on Oct. 22 (Starling), one yellow at Bolton Hill, BC on Oct. 23 (Ringler), one yellow at Cumberland and one yellow and two westerns at North Branch on Oct. 26 (Churchill), one at Easton on Oct. 27 (Reese, Allen), two at Loch Raven on Oct. 27 (Jenkins, Terry), and five yellows and seven westerns at Turkey Point on Oct. 28 (Starling). Late birds were one yellow at Layhill on Nov. 1, four birds there on Nov. 3 (Sussman), three at Meadowbrook on Nov. 2 (Harry Fink), one western at Perry Point on Nov. 7 (Starling), one yellow at Terrapin on Nov. 8 (Mackiernan, Cooper), one at Point Lookout on Nov. 11 (Waanders, Kline), and five at Oak Grove on Nov. 28 (Lovelace).

*Other Warblers.* Early **Black-and-white Warblers** were two at Smith Island on Aug. 8 (Stasz, Hafner) and one at Tilghman Island on Aug. 11 (Reese); peak numbers were 10 at Dameron on Aug. 21 (Craig), 12 at McKeldin on Sept. 21 (Hoffman), and 15 at MPEA on Sept. 27 (H. Holbrook) and a very late migrant was at Salisbury on Nov. 11 (P. Bystrak). Early **American Redstarts** were two at Point Lookout and one at Smith Island on Aug. 8 (Stasz, Hafner) and one at Frostburg on Aug. 10 (Churchill); highs were 18 at Ellicott City on Sept. 12 (Ott) and 30 at Dameron on Sept. 19 (Craig) and a late bird was at Milltown Landing on Oct. 19 (Mozurkewich +). A **Prothonotary Warbler** at Rigby's Folly on Aug. 10 (Armistead) was an early migrant, and the last of the year were four at Millington WMA on Sept. 2 (Stasz). Reports of **Worm-eating Warblers** included two at Dameron on Aug. 21 (Craig), one at Blackwater on Sept. 8 (Brighton), and one at Oldtown, AL on Sept. 14 (Churchill). An early migrant **Ovenbird** was at Point Lookout on Aug. 8 (Stasz, Hafner) and a late bird was in the Mary Ripley Garden on the Mall, DC on Oct. 30 (Felley). An early **Northern Waterthrush** was near St. Leonard Creek, CT and another at Point Lookout on Aug. 8 (Stasz, Hafner), one was at Bolton Hill, BC on Aug. 9 (Ringler), one at Assateague on Aug. 10 (Ellison, N. Martin), and two at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Aug. 10 (Pisano) where there were at least three on Sept. 22 (Mackiernan, Cooper); a late bird was at Easton on Oct. 6 (Stasz) and a very late one was at Dunkirk on Nov. 11 (Ripley). An exceptionally late **Louisiana Waterthrush** at Wilde Lake on Sept. 14 (Zeichner) was the only one reported. A very late **Kentucky Warbler** was at Salisbury on Sept. 30 (C. & D. Broderick). A very early **Connecticut Warbler**

was at Centennial on Aug. 22 (Ott) followed by single birds at Susquehanna SP on Sept. 13 (Eastman), Laurel on Sept. 14 (Robbins), Dameron on Sept. 17 (Craig), Rock Creek Park on Sept. 18 (Cooper, Hubbell), Sassafras River NRMA on Sept. 20 (Ellison), Wootons Landing on Sept. 23 (Stasz), Lake Elkhorn on Sept. 24 (Schwarz), Jefferson Patterson Park on Sept. 25 (T. Bell), Eastern Neck on Sept. 28 (Stasz), Salisbury on Sept. 30 (C. & D. Broderick), Meadowbrook on Oct. 3 (H. Holbrook), and one banded at Jug Bay on Oct. 14 (*fide* Ryan). Sightings of **Mourning Warblers**, also single birds, were at Dameron on Aug. 21 (Craig), Terrapin on Aug. 25 (Stasz) and Sept. 21–22 (Dodson, Kari Cohen +), Assateague on Aug. 31 (Stasz), Tilghman Island on Sept. 1 (W. Bell), PRNAS on Sept. 14 (Rambo), Little Bennett on Sept. 14 (Bob Hartman), Rockburn on Sept. 15 (Ott +), UMCF on Sept. 18 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem), PRR on Sept. 19 (Noyes), Harford Glen on Sept. 21 (Stasz, Boyd), Patuxent River SP, HO on Sept. 22 (Stasz), and Meadowbrook on Oct. 14 (H. Holbrook). Highs for **Common Yellowthroats** were 15 at Finzel on Sept. 7 (Churchill), 20 at Rock Creek Park on Sept. 18 (Cooper), 28 at Sassafras River NRMA on Sept. 20 (Ellison), 19 at Morgan Run on Sept. 21 (Hoffman), and 40 at Tilghman Island on Sept. 29 (Reese); a late bird was on the Mall, DC on Oct. 31 (Pisano). Late **Hooded Warblers** were one at Tappers Corner, TA on Sept. 20 (Stasz), one at Morgan Run on Sept. 21 (Hoffman), one at Town Hill on Sept. 21 (Churchill), and two at UMCF on Oct. 6 (Ott +). A very early **Wilson's Warbler** was at Ellicott City on Aug. 23 (Ott) and single late birds seen on Sept. 29 were at Eastern Neck (Ellison, N. Martin), Hughes Hollow (Simonson), and Oak Grove (Lovelace). Robbins banded a late **Canada Warbler** at Laurel on Oct. 14. Late **Yellow-breasted Chats** were one at Hughes Hollow on Oct. 1 (Woodward), one at Pemberton Park, Salisbury on Oct. 22 (Lawler), and one at MPEA on Nov. 5 (Helen Metzman).

*Tanagers, Towhees.* Late **Summer Tanagers** were four at Dameron on Sept. 12 (Craig), a female at PRR on Sept. 21 (Noyes), and single males at Adkins Arboretum and near Pickering Creek on Sept. 22 (Hafner, Baer, Carney). An orange variant **Scarlet Tanager** was at Hallmark on Aug. 17 (Ebert). Brighton noted 15 Scarlet Tanagers at Blackwater on Sept. 8 and the latest for the year was one at Rock Creek Park on Oct. 8 (Hubbell). Reports of single female **Western Tanagers** came from Darnestown on Sept. 2 (Simonson) and Loch Raven on Nov. 29 (Elise Kreiss). Hoffman counted 22 **Eastern Towhees** at Morgan Run on Sept. 21.

*Sparrows.* An exceptionally early **American Tree Sparrow** was at Cumberland on Oct. 26 (Churchill) with the next report of four at Eden Mill on Nov. 16 (Cheicante). Highs for **Chipping Sparrows** were 40 at Pylesville on Aug. 27 (J. & L. Fry), 35 near Cherrywalk, WI on Sept. 18 (Stasz), 30 at Rocky Gap on Oct. 12 (Churchill), 50 at Belmont, HO on Oct. 12–13 (Bowen), 40 at Cromwell Valley Park on Oct. 14 (Lev), 70 at Layhill on Oct. 21 (Mackiernan, Cooper), 20 at Greenbrier SP on Oct. 25 (Stasz, Hafner), 50 at Seneca Creek SP on Nov. 1 (Czaplak), and 50 at Point Lookout and Scotland on Nov. 12 (Cribb); late birds were eight at Mears Farm on Nov. 24 (Arnold). Single **Clay-colored Sparrows** were reported at Fort McHenry on Oct. 13–17 (Peters +), Seneca Creek SP on Nov. 1 (Czaplak), and Point Lookout on Nov. 26 (H. Holbrook +). **Field Sparrow** flocks included 50 at Jefferson Patterson Park on Nov. 8 (T. Bell) and 40 at Point Lookout and Scotland on Nov. 12 (Cribb). Reports of migrant **Vesper Sparrows** included two at Hurluck on Sept. 18 (Stasz), one at Swan Harbor Farm on Oct. 6–20 (Hafner +), one at Fort McHenry on Oct. 17 (Peters, Costley), and an amazing eight at North Branch on Oct. 26 (Churchill +). The only **Lark Sparrow** of the season was at Assateague on Sept. 25 (H. Holbrook). Highs for **Savannah Sparrows** were 100 at Swan Harbor Farm on Oct. 6 (Hafner), 30 at Easton on Oct. 6 (Stasz), 25 at Blackwater on Oct. 20 (Reese, Stone), and 20 at North Branch on Oct. 26 (Churchill +). Always rare in fall, **Grasshopper Sparrows** were well-reported with one at Easton on Oct. 12 (*fide* Roslund),

an astonishing seven at Blackwater on Oct. 20 (Reese, Richard Kleen, Stone), one at Pickell Hill on Oct. 26 (Stasz, Hafner), one at North Branch on Oct. 26 (Stasz +), one near Blackwater on Oct. 27 (Willey), one at UMCF on Oct. 27 (Ott, H. Holbrook, Costley), and one at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Nov. 1 (Pisano). Reports of **Seaside Sparrows** were one at Point Lookout on Sept. 2 (Craig, Bishop, Cribb), seven at Elliott Island on Sept. 8 (Brighton), two at Bloodsworth Island on Sept. 9 (Armistead), and one at Widgeon Wharf, SO on Sept. 18 (Stasz). Highs for **Fox Sparrows** were seven at Point Lookout on Nov. 15 (Cribb) and six at Horsehead on Nov. 17 (Roslund). Highs for **Song Sparrows** were 90 at Cromwell Valley Park on Oct. 14 (Lev), 80 at Layhill on Oct. 21 (Mackiernan, Cooper), and 40 at Cumberland and 40 at North Branch on Oct. 26 (Churchill +). The first **Lincoln's Sparrow** of the season was at Meadowbrook on Sept. 14 (Ott, Holdridge); multiple sightings were three at Pinto Marsh on Sept. 29 (Churchill), two at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 6 (Stasz), 16 in Howard Co. on Oct. 12 (Ott +), two at Fort McHenry on Oct. 13 (Peters +), three at Hughes Hollow and one at Sycamore Landing on Oct. 18 (Harris), three at Broadford Lake on Oct. 20 (Pope), and one at Cumberland and one at Rocky Gap on Oct. 26 (Churchill +); late birds were one at Morgan Run on Nov. 2 (Trisha Nyland), one at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Nov. 8 (Pisano), and one at Mears Farm on Nov. 28 (Arnold, Charlie Kucera). Highs for **Swamp Sparrows** were 200 at UMCF on Oct. 18 (Ott), 50 at Layhill on Oct. 21 (Mackiernan, Cooper), and 57 at Horsehead on Nov. 3 (Ellison, N. Martin). Early **White-throated Sparrows** were one at Rigby's Folly on Sept. 7 (Armistead) and one at Bosely Conservancy, HA on Sept. 21 (Stasz, Boyd); high numbers were 204 at Hughes Hollow on Oct. 23 (Woodward), 200 at David Force Park, HO on Oct. 26 (Ott +), and a remarkable 2,375 at Point Lookout and Scotland on Nov. 12 (Cribb). A **Harris's Sparrow** was found at North Branch on Oct. 26 (Kiddy +). Highs for **White-crowned Sparrows** were 12 at Perryman on Nov. 15 (Cheicante) and 12 at North Branch on Nov. 28 (Churchill). Reports of **Gambel's White-crowned Sparrows** were an adult at Eastern Neck on Oct. 13 (Ellison) and one or two at North Branch on Oct. 26 (Stasz +).

*Juncos, Longspurs, Snow Buntings.* Highs for **Dark-eyed Juncos** were 1,200 at Point Lookout and Scotland on Nov. 12 (Cribb) and hundreds at Mears Farm on Nov. 24 (Arnold); oddities were one over the Atlantic Ocean 35 miles offshore on Nov. 16 (Gustafson, Guris +) and a partial albino at Frostburg on Nov. 24 (Churchill). Reports of **Lapland Longspurs** were one at Berlin on Nov. 9 (Churchill), one near New Windsor and two or three near Taneytown, CL on Nov. 24 (Ringler), and two at Pleasant Valley on Nov. 28 (Gary Felton). Reports of **Snow Buntings** were five at Flag Ponds on Nov. 2-10 (*vide* Ripley), 11 at Poplar Island on Nov. 15 (Reese), one near New Windsor on Nov. 24 (Ringler), and one heard at Point Lookout on Nov. 28 (Pisano).

*Cardinaline Finches.* Early **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** were one at North Branch on Aug. 11 (Stasz), one at Lusby, CT on Aug. 27 (Stasz), and one at Assateague on Aug. 31 (Hafner +). About 12 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were heard flying over before dawn on Sept. 29 at Sugarloaf (Stasz, Hafner, Baer); late birds were one at Point Lookout on Oct. 9 (Stasz), one at Wilde Lake on Oct. 21 (Zeichner), and an immature male at Brush Run, Columbia on Nov. 30 (Wilkinson). Ellison found **Blue Grosbeaks** still feeding a fledgling at Chesapeake Landing on Sept. 16; a late migrant was at UMCF on Oct. 23 (Ott). At least 70 **Indigo Buntings** were at UMCF on Sept. 13 (Ott, H. Holbrook, Solem), 21 were at Sassafras River NRMA on Sept. 20 (Ellison), and 30 at Liberty Watershed, CL near Finksburg on Sept. 22 (Stasz, Boyd); a late bird was at UMCF on Oct. 23 (Ott). A male **Painted Bunting** was reported at California on Aug. 6-7 (Dave & Mary Swift). Reports of migrant **Dickcissels** were one at Assateague on Aug. 31 (Hafner +), one at Taylors Island on Sept. 18 (Stasz), one heard before dawn on Sept.



29 at Sugarloaf (Stasz, Hafner, Baer), two at UMCF on Oct. 2 (Ott, Holdridge) with one there on the 18th (Ott), two flying over Assateague on Oct. 13 (Hafner +), and one heard singing at Easton on Oct. 27 (Reese, Roslund).

*Icterids.* Early migrant **Bobolinks** were three at Hart-Miller on Aug. 10 (Ricciardi, D. Bystrak), one at Rigby's Folly on Aug. 11 (Armistead), one at Rocky Gap at Aug. 11 (Stasz), four at Assateague and one at Fairmount WMA on Aug. 17 (Stasz), and 75 at Chesapeake Farms on Aug. 31 (Ringler); late birds were four at St. Jeromes Neck, SM on Oct. 9 (Stasz), two flying over Assateague on Oct. 13 (Hafner +), one at Easton on Oct. 18 (Hafner, Baer), one near Perryman and two at Swan Harbor Farm on Oct. 20 (Stasz, Boyd), and one at UMCF on Nov. 2 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem). A leucistic **Red-winged Blackbird** was seen at Point Lookout on Aug. 25 (T. Bell, Kostenko). The only reports of **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** were one female at Great Oak Pond on Aug. 29 (Ellison) and a sub-adult at West Ocean City on Sept. 28 (F. & N. Saunders). Early **Rusty Blackbirds** were one at West Ocean City on Sept. 28 (F. & N. Saunders) and 12 at Worton on Sept. 30 (Reese); highs were 250 at Hughes Hollow on Nov. 3 (Woodward) and 40 at Loch Raven on Nov. 5 (E. Kirschbaum, Paul Noell, Gail Frantz). An immature male **Brewer's Blackbird** was near Frederick, FR on Sept. 29 (Stasz, Hafner, Baer) and a female was at Glen Echo, MO on Oct. 23 (Czaplak). Flocks of **Common Grackles** included 600 at Tilghman Island on Sept. 1 (Reese, Willey, W. Bell), 3,000 at Chesapeake Farms on Sept. 2 (Stasz), 400 at Funkstown on Sept. 6 (Stasz, Hafner), 1,000 at Church Hill, QA on Oct. 29 (Reese), 6,500 at Great Oak Pond on Oct. 27 (Ellison), and 10,000 at Perry Point on Nov. 9 (Starling). Flocks of **Boat-tailed Grackles** were 30 at Smith Island on Aug. 13 (Cribb) and 105 at Bishops Head, DO on Sept. 9 (Armistead). Flocks of **Brown-headed Cowbirds** were 800 at Hurlock on Aug. 20 (Hafner), 200 near Preston, CN on Oct. 12 (Stasz), 500 at Blackwater on Oct. 20 (Reese, Stone), and 200 at St. Jeromes Neck, SM on Nov. 30 (Churchill). Late **Orchard Orioles** were eight at Point Lookout on Aug. 8 (Stasz, Hafner), two at Pickell Hill on Aug. 10 (Stasz), two at Tilghman Island on Aug. 24 (Allen, Ellison), and one at Eastern Neck on Sept. 7 (Ellison). A migrant **Baltimore Oriole** was at Rock Creek Park on Aug. 20 (Hubbell), eight were at Dameron on Sept. 1 (Craig), and single late birds were at Roosevelt Island on Oct. 2 (Marko), Turkey Point on Oct. 26 (Ellison, Watson-Whitmyre +), and Dameron on Nov. 25 (Craig).

*Cardueline Finches.* Flocks of migrant **House Finches** included 105 at Hooper Island on Nov. 3 (Armistead) and 700 at Tilghman Island on Nov. 9 (Reese). Two **Pine Siskins** were at Black Hill RP on Nov. 24 (Joe Alexander). Reese also estimated 500 **American Goldfinches** migrating at Tilghman Island on Nov. 9.

*Exotics.* A **Greylag Goose** was at Westminster Reservoir on Oct. 6 (Ringler). Two **Chukars** were at Sycamore Landing on Sept. 15 (Woodward). A **Ringed Turtle-Dove** at Bethesda on Aug. 29 had been present one or two weeks (Hilton).

## ADDENDA & CORRIGENDA FROM PREVIOUS ISSUES

**Volume 56:** In the May Count table on page 14 the numbers of American Black Ducks and Mallards in Frederick County have been reversed. They should read zero American Black Ducks and 159 Mallards. The totals for the state on page 15 should be corrected to read 66 American Black Ducks and 1,902 Mallards. Similarly, on page 16 the numbers of Semipalmated Plovers and Killdeer have been reversed for Garrett, Allegany, and Washington counties, and the totals for state on page 17 should read 296 Semipalmated Plovers and 514 Killdeer. In the hawk migration table on page 37 of Volume 56 the first date for Northern Goshawk should be 4/3, not 4/23. The Hairy Woodpecker nest reported in the Spring 1999 season (Volume 56, page 39) was actually at Stevensville, QA and not as listed.

**Volume 57:** On page 34, delete the report of one Great Black-backed Gull at Little Pool on May 21, 2000. The following hawk migration table was inadvertently omitted from the Spring 2000 season report:

**TABLE 1:  
MIGRANT VULTURES & DIURNAL RAPTORS, SPRING 2000  
FORT SMALLWOOD PARK, ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY**  
Compiled by Sue Ricciardi

SPECIES	FIRST	LAST	TOTAL	BIG DAYS
Black Vulture	2/16	6/8	233	52 on 3/26, 27 on 3/4
Turkey Vulture	2/16	6/9	3,246	499 on 3/26, 240 on 3/25
Osprey	3/4	6/9	371	44 on 4/12, 34 on 4/23
Swallow-tailed Kite	5/18		1	
Mississippi Kite	5/9	6/3	4	also 1 on 5/18 & 5/24
Bald Eagle	2/20	5/31	48	6 on 5/24
Northern Harrier	2/16	5/13	137	30 on 4/12, 15 on 4/5
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2/16	5/17	1,928	213 on 4/30, 199 on 5/2
Cooper's Hawk	2/16	5/24	409	35 on 4/5 & 4/6
Northern Goshawk	3/25	4/11	2	
Red-shouldered Hawk	2/16	5/1	246	43 on 3/3, 31 on 4/6
Broad-winged Hawk	4/2	6/8	958	432 on 5/9, 205 on 4/24
Red-tailed Hawk	2/16	5/24	403	92 on 4/6, 63 on 4/8
Golden Eagle	4/6		1	
American Kestrel	2/25	5/2	866	248 on 4/12, 123 on 3/26
Merlin	3/26	5/6	43	6 on 4/12, 5 on 4/24 & 4/30
Peregrine Falcon	4/19	4/29	3	also 1 on 4/20
Unidentified Raptors			27	
<b>TOTAL</b>	2/16	6/9	8,926	864 on 3/26, 554 on 5/9

*402.2 hours of observation on 83 days.*

**Volume 58:**

(Page 26) The Bald Eagle was observed carrying a stick at Daniels on Dec. 3 not Jan. 6.

(Page 35) The Greater Yellowlegs at UMCF on Mar. 11 was observed by Magnusson, not Ott.

(Page 36) Delete 40 Common Snipe at Centennial on Mar. 23.

(Page 64) Delete the Wilson's Warbler at Columbia on Nov. 28. The actual year was 2000 and the correct citation is on page 66 of Volume 57.

(Page 67) Under *Exotics* the Ruddy Shelduck on Aug. 21 should be Common Shelduck.

## WOODCOCK "DANCE"

DENNIS COSKREN

On September 26, 2000, near noon, Jane and I were near the north end of Assateague Island National Seashore, birding the area near the Bayside Campground. We were driving on the road from the bay side when we noticed a brown "something" in the road. When I stopped the car, we saw that it was an American Woodcock (*Scolopax minor*), strutting in the center of the road. The bird would take a single step, then bob up and down three to five times, take another step, bob a few more times, then step again, and so forth. The head remained more or less fixed, while the body, and especially the tail, moved up and down. The motion was reminiscent of the teetering of a Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*), but more pronounced. The amplitude of the bobbing seemed to be approximately two inches. After a few steps and bobs, it would flip its tail up. This continued for five minutes or so, until the bird had completed its crossing of the road and disappeared into the adjacent vegetation. Jane left the car to see better, but the bird ignored her (and the car). The weather was overcast; we watched from a distance of perhaps 25 feet with 10X binoculars.

This behavior was unfamiliar to us, and to other birders to whom we mentioned it. We did not find it in Bent's "Life Histories of North American Shore Birds" (1927), nor in Matthiessen's "The Shorebirds of North America" (1967). However, it is described briefly by Sibley (2000) in *The Sibley Guide to Birds*.

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## CONTENTS, SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2003

Late Nesting Dates in Maryland: Pine Warbler,  
 Northern Parula and Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher..... *Jay M. Sheppard* ..... 3

Late Nesting of American Robin in Maryland..... *Robert L. Garner* ..... 5

The Season:

  Observers, Abbreviations & Locations ..... 6

  Breeding Season, June 1-July 31, 2002..... *Robert F. Ringler* ..... 8

  Fall Migration, Aug. 1-Nov. 30, 2002 ..... *Robert F. Ringler* ..... 12

Addenda & Corrigenda from Previous Issues..... 34

Woodcock "Dance" ..... *Dennis Coskren*..... 35



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